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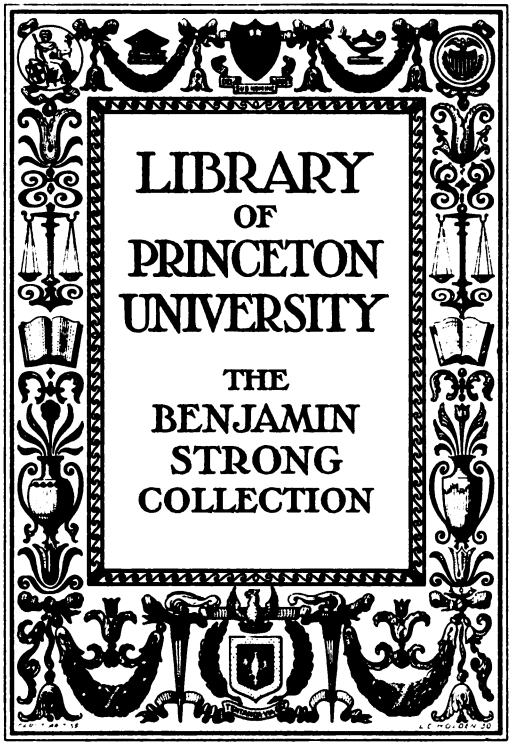

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WEALTH AND PROGRESS

OF

NEW SOUTH WALES.

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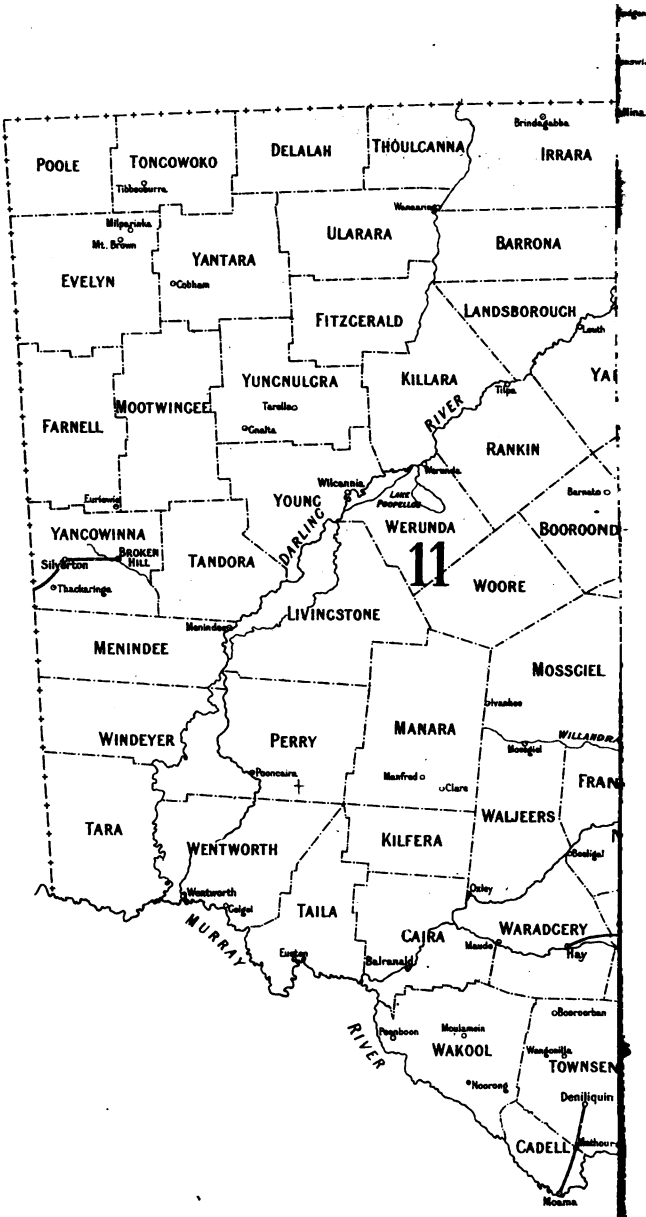

DIAGRAM MAP OF

NEW SOUTH WALES

Scale of Miles

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120 130 140 150

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THE

WEALTH AND PROGRESS

OF

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Statist. off

Official yearbook of N.S.W.
1894.

BY

T. A. COGHLAN,
GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN.

IN TWO VOLUMES—VOLUME II.

EIGHTH ISSUE.

Sydney:
CHARLES POTTER, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, PHILLIP-STREET.
1896.

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CONTENTS.

	Page.
Industrial History	467
Employment and Production	530
Law and Crime	581
Settlement	633
Internal Communication	702
Private Finance	756
Instruction, Science, and Religion	831
Social Condition and Charities	870
Population and Vital Statistics	886
Local Government	987
Index	1017

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PART XVIII.

INDUSTRIAL HISTORY.

OF the great industries now being carried on in the Colony, only wheat and maize farming, wool-growing, and coal-mining date from the beginning of settlement—all the others are of comparatively recent growth, while some industries that manifested early promise have died out or fallen into neglect; and interesting as it is to look back upon the conditions of industrial life which characterised the development of the Colony in its early years, it must be remembered that those conditions have in many cases only an indirect bearing upon the commercial and social evolutions of present times. The records of industrial life, even at the beginning of Australian settlement, contain much that is of interest, and, as will presently appear, many important problems which agitated the public mind in days long anterior to the gold discoveries still call for solution. In the following pages the industrial history of New South Wales is traced from the first days of settlement. In some respects it is a record of continuous progress, in others it is marked by features of an opposite character; but, speaking generally, there has been a systematic advance in the condition of the workers, especially of those who may be classed as wage-earners.

The industrial history of the Colony naturally falls into eight periods, as hereunder shown :—

First Industrial Period,	from		1788	to 1821
Second	,,	,,	,, 1821	,, 1838
Third	,,	,,	,, 1838	,, 1843
Fourth	,,	,,	,, 1843	,, 1852
Fifth	,,	,,	,, 1852	,, 1858
Sixth	,,	,,	,, 1859	,, 1862
Seventh	,,	,,	,, 1863	,, 1872
Eighth	,,	,,	,, 1872	,, 1893

It is in relation to these several periods that the economic progress of the Colony is now discussed.

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First Industrial Period, 1788–1821.

The first period embraces the interval between the landing of Governor Phillip and the departure of Macquarie; that is to say, from 1788 to 1821. Intended, as it was, for a mere penal settlement, there was little room in the Colony for the operation of industrial forces, and it was long before the authorities would recognise that the labourer had any rights beyond that to mere subsistence. This was perhaps inevitable in a place where the great majority of the labourers were emancipists; but the same ideas dominated the policy of the ruling powers long after the free population became an important factor in the industrial life of the Colony.

Throughout the first industrial period, and, indeed, until a much later time, the spirit of the Government was that of paternal interference in every concern of social life. For the individual, especially the labourer, everything was regulated. The Governor fixed the price and determined the quality of the provisions consumed in the settlement; he made grants of land, and, in order to beautify his metropolis, required those who received grants within its boundaries to build substantial and handsome edifices thereon; he erected markets, and framed by-laws for their governance; he served out lands, cattle, and provisions to his subjects like a tradesman purveying general merchandise; he adjusted tolls, ferry dues, and wharfage fees, and gave an eye to municipal matters. Moreover, he gathered together the orphans in the Colony, and supported them out of the proceeds of the duties and customs collected at the port. To the labourer he strove to ensure a fixed daily wage; from the labourer he sought to exact an unvarying amount as the price of his loaf or his pound of meat. This was not only possible, but seemed in no way opposed to the ideas of the times, as the colonist, properly so called, was looked upon somewhat in the light of an intruder.

During the whole of the first period the Government was the chief employer of labour; indeed, in the earliest years there was no other. Amongst individuals, the military officers were the first to seek labour, and to them were made over a number of prisoners, by whose aid a large area of country was cleared and cultivated. At first the Government supplied assigned labourers with clothing and food; but this was soon altered, and the expense of maintaining them was wholly borne by their employers; indeed, this relief of the public stores was the chief consideration which induced the authorities to extend the principle of assignment. As years went on, an increasing number of men whose sentences had expired became available for ordinary employment, and these, with the soldiers who preferred to remain in the Colony, retired officers, civilians in the employ of the Government, and, lastly, the few free immigrants who had made their way to the settlement, formed the industrial population. For a considerable period the free element of

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population was not large; as it grew in importance, the Governor found it necessary to promulgate laws for the regulation of the relations between employer and employed. These were varied from time to time, but never in such a degree as to mitigate the labourer's lot.

The laws affecting labour were all conceived in the spirit of the primal curse, which designated work a punishment, the life of man a warfare, and his time here below a probation to be spent in weariness and sorrow. The General Orders issued during the first thirty years were sufficiently harsh and callous even when their provisions were framed with especial reference to the bond population, but they were no whit more tender or considerate when they sought to regulate the conditions governing the operations of free labour. The hours of toil were established, and on no tender scale. A day's work for stacking and carrying grain was fixed at from 5 o'clock in the morning until 7 o'clock at night, less three hours for food and rest. The wages to be paid for various classes of labour were also arbitrarily determined. Should a labourer take or demand more than the regulated rates, or refuse to work for such wages, he was to be set in the stocks for two days and one night for the first offence, and for a second or continued refusal he was to undergo a penalty of three months' hard labour. If a master paid more than the regulated rates he was to be imprisoned for ten days without bail and to pay a fine of £5. No person was allowed to take work unless he could, if a freeman, produce his certificate, or, if a bondman, his ticket of leave. For the infringement of this regulation the penalty inflicted on the employer was a fine of £5, and 2s. 6d. for each day on which a free labourer was employed, with more than double this fine in the case of the employment of a bondman; and for his share in the offence the labourer was also punished. The harbouring of a runaway apprentice involved a penalty of six months' hard labour to a freeman, and of one hundred lashes, with other punishment, if the offender were a prisoner.

The lot of the free labourer, who was generally an emancipated convict, was very severe. His hours of labour were long, and his pay by no means commensurate with his day's toil, varying, according to his trade, from 20s. to 30s. a week without rations. Agricultural labourers were paid £4 for clearing and hoeing for corn an acre of ground; timber-getters, for sawing 100 feet, 7s., and for splitting 100 feet, 1s. 6d. to 2s. In 1796 the sum paid for making a pair of boots was 3s. 6d.; for a coat, 6s.; and for a gown, 5s.; carpenters received 5s., and field labourers, 3s. a day, without rations, and these were considered high prices. In 1814 a general order fixed the price for felling forest timber at 10s. per acre, and burning off at 25s. per acre; cutting down weeds and brush and burning off at 10s. per acre, and a splitter's daily remuneration at 2s. 6d. Three years later the price given for felling forest timber was reduced to 8s. per acre by an official regulation, burning off to £1 per acre, and other work in like proportion.

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The annual expense of a convict to the Government was about £36 or £40 a year, including rations; and this the masters had to bear upon assignment of prison labour. If, however, the Government retained a prisoner's services, he was free to work for himself after 3 o'clock, and all that he could earn "on his own hands" became his personal property. By general order, a prisoner's remuneration after hours was fixed at 1s. per day; but it is probable that skilled men, when they chose to work, found the inducement more profitable than was contemplated. The lot of the prisoner, therefore, was in some respects better than that of the free labourer, who was compelled to clothe and feed himself. In those early days of paucity of labour it was customary to permit the soldiers to engage themselves during the harvest months, and a general order limited the remuneration to be paid to each man to 15s. currency per week, or 1 bushel of wheat per acre harvested, at the worker's option. A transgression of this order was punishable by fine, and in the event of any soldier demanding more than the regulation amount he was summoned before the nearest magistrate to answer for his conduct.

This regulation of prices by law was strictly in accordance with the ideas of the times, the object aimed at being to ensure to settlers a supply of cheap labour, and incidentally to protect the labourer against fraud on the part of the master. Its principal effect was to prevent the worker from recovering in the Courts a greater price for his labour than was stipulated in the schedule, whereas the moment it became the interest of the employer to give better terms he would do so. The rates published by the Governor referred only to the various kinds of labour pertaining to agriculture and the allied pursuits, the wages of artificers, particularly of such as were most useful in a young community, being much higher. Transportation from England and Ireland was maintained during the whole of this period, and reached very large proportions about the year 1817, in response to Macquarie's demand for labour to carry on the agriculture of the country and to complete the numerous public works inaugurated during his term of office. Voluntary immigration almost entirely ceased with the increase in transportation; indeed, it was in many ways discouraged, the British Government going so far as to prohibit any person from proceeding to the Colony who could not prove that he was possessed of sufficient property to enable him to establish himself on his arrival there.

Wages were paid partly in money and partly in kind, so that in studying the condition of industry some consideration must be given to the question of rations. These at first comprised an allowance of salt beef, maize, and split peas; but they were subject to considerable modification according to the condition of the stores, and especially during times of scarcity. Such measures were, fortunately, not often necessary, but the occurrence of periods of want, if not of absolute famine, had to be anticipated in a Colony dependent for its support

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exclusively on importations, in days when ships visited the settlement only at long intervals, and prospects of profitable trading had not yet been made manifest. The fact that supplies were not sooner obtained from the soil of the country was probably the result of ignorance rather than of lethargy, for when knowledge was gained the difficulties in the way of obtaining breadstuffs considerably diminished.

Governor Macquarie continued the rates of remuneration authorised by his predecessors, but he directed that masters should pay their assigned servants a yearly sum of £10 for a man and £7 for a woman, including the value of slops allowed, or £7 for a man and £5 10s. for a woman when clothing was supplied. The whole tendency of the regulations imposed upon labour was to allow the average free labourer to earn 10s. a week in addition to rations, or 20s. a week where rations were not supplied. As already remarked, there is abundant contemporary testimony that, in spite of the severe penalties of the law, the legal rates were not adhered to, for the settlers ordinarily had to give more, the labourers refusing employment at the fixed rates.

Average prices of some few articles during the first twenty years of settlement are given below; and although labourers in receipt of 3s. a day would purchase few of the commodities mentioned at the open stores, they would probably, under the necessity of accepting the barter currency of the country, be compelled to take them in payment for their work, notwithstanding that by special regulation it was ordained that all wages were to be paid in sterling money or in wheat, at the option of the labourer.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Maize, per bushel	10	0	Salt pork, per lb.	0	7
Wheat, per bushel	12	0	Rice, per lb.	0	3
Flour, per lb.	0	9	Potatoes, per lb.	0	3
Butter, per lb.	3	0	Moist sugar, per lb.	1	6
Cheese, per lb.	2	6	Soap, per lb.	1	0
Bacon, per lb.	1	9	Eggs, per dozen	2s. to 3s.	
Salt beef, per lb.	0	5			

These figures represent the average market rates, but prices were subject to great fluctuation; for example, wheat sold in 1817 at 25s. per bushel, while maize touched 16s. in some other years. Fresh meat was not plentiful, as the Governors were afraid of destroying the breeding stock, and Macquarie at one time actually attached the penalty of death to the destruction of the wild cattle found at the "Cowpastures" of Camden, although these cattle were afterwards killed, as it was feared that they might deteriorate the breed of stock. The settlers were at all times encouraged to keep pigs; and they must have grown vegetables, as American whalers, even in the earliest times, were accustomed to put into Port Jackson for a supply.

Trade and communication were restricted, not only with the view of ensuring the safe keeping of the convicts, but also in the commercial interests of Great Britain, and particularly of the East India Company.

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British seamen were forbidden to go on board a foreign vessel under the penalty of a £50 fine, and no British subject was permitted to enter into any contract with the subjects of a foreign power under pain of being sent away from the Colony. Ships bringing cargoes from any part of the world, unless the goods had been manufactured in Great Britain, were obliged to pay a duty of 5 per cent. *ad valorem* on the amount of their invoices, and special enactments were from time to time levelled at the importation of merchandise "brought from the eastward of the Cape of Good Hope." The isolated condition of the settlement rendered colonists peculiarly liable to extortion on the part of traders, and the paternal Government therefore issued a general order forbidding traders to charge for retailing more than 20 per cent. advance on the importers' prices. In doubtful cases the retail price was required, if sued for, to be estimated by the Courts, at an advance of from 80 to 100 per cent. on the prime cost of English or Indian goods, or of 20 per cent. on the retail price in the exporting country.

Notes of hand for contracted debts were not recognisable as evidence unless the account of the articles sold, with the prices stated therein, was also produced. No note of hand could be drawn in copper coin or in Colonial currency, as such bills were, under an order of the Governor, to be liquidated in sterling money only, and the words "sterling money" had to be expressed in the body of the note or bill. The penalty for a breach of this regulation was a fine of £50. A subsequent regulation prohibited any person from receiving or paying any note of hand that had not the words "sterling money" therein expressed, under a penalty of double the amount of the note inflicted on both payer and receiver. Having regulated the relations of employer and employed, of buyer and seller, and the prices of labour and provisions, it was only fitting that the rate of interest should be determined. The Governor, therefore, prohibited the charging or acceptance of more than 8 per cent. interest on any bill, bond, or the like, under a penalty subject to the laws against usury. It is almost needless to say that this regulation was set at nought by the usurers without difficulty.

Prior to the year 1810 industries properly so called were non-existent, but Macquarie's term of office was marked by considerable commercial activity. Vessels were built and fitted out in the dockyards of Sydney, and public works were pushed on by the Governor with characteristic energy. In the year named the settlement possessed a brewery, a pottery, a tannery, a manufactory for tobacco pipes, and another for coarse cloths and woollens. The last named was established at Parramatta in order to utilise the services of the women prisoners, who were also employed in spinning linen out of the white flax of the country. Among articles of export to the East during these early years was sandalwood, for which there was an excellent market in China. The trade was in a certain sense contraband, as it involved a breach of the charter of the East India Company. Despite the fact that the port of

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Newcastle was a dangerous place for vessels to enter, the exportation of coal was attempted, and there appears to have been some trade carried on with Bengal in this mineral. Among other exports were beche-de-mer, whale oil, whale bone, seal skins, kangaroo skins, and lastly, what was destined to be the staple product of the Colony—wool.

At the beginning of Macquarie's administration, he was recommended to make as many reforms as possible in the restrictions imposed upon commerce by his predecessors. Many of these restrictions were of a peculiarly harassing and impolitic nature, and were calculated to greatly discourage mercantile speculation. The most grievous was that practice, sanctioned by long usage, by which the Governor fixed the maximum prices to be paid for all imported merchandise—prices often too low to afford a fair profit to the trader. The entire cargo of a vessel was secured by the officers of the settlement, who alone had liberty to purchase, and articles of the first necessity were subsequently retailed by them to the settlers at greatly enhanced prices. Another regulation of a particularly oppressive character was the prohibition of any trading vessel from calling at the settlements at Van Diemen's Land for the purpose of disposing of goods, unless it had previously touched at Port Jackson. These and other abuses were in some cases restricted in their operation by Macquarie, and in others abolished. Soon after his arrival he did away with the practice of fixing a maximum price for grain and butcher's meat, but reverted to it a few years later.

The people, other than those of the labouring class, were, according to all contemporary history, in a flourishing condition, but this description must not be taken literally, as it was that of men accustomed to the wretchedness of English or Irish peasant life, and what would be deemed fairly comfortable by them would nowadays be looked upon as far from tolerable. As regards the ordinary labourer, his material condition was in every respect wretched. He lived usually in a windowless hut, was clothed with canvas, and his food, though plentiful, was coarse and savourless. Of opportunities for amusement, culture, or self-education, he had none. Books were hardly to be obtained; morality was at its lowest ebb; and religion was a matter of authoritative regulation and enforced ceremonial obedience.

The method of exchange prior to Macquarie's arrival was mainly barter, varied to a slight extent by the circulation of foreign silver and of copper coin. The latter possessed twice its English value, and a general order was promulgated against both its import and its export. Later in the history of the Colony, various expedients were resorted to by tradesmen, and shopkeepers' notes were circulated for sums varying from 3d. upwards, payable in Spanish dollars. The standard currency really consisted of paymaster's notes on the English Treasury, and these were negotiable with shippers in exchange for goods, a fact which assisted materially in the establishment of a trade monopoly by the officers of the civil and military departments.

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The local values of the coins circulating in the settlement prior to the arrival of Governor Macquarie were as follow :—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Guinea	1	2	0	Spanish dollar	0	5	0
Johanna	4	0	0	Rupee	0	2	6
Half-joe	2	0	0	Dutch guilder	0	2	0
Ducat	0	9	6	English shilling	0	1	1
Gold mohur	1	17	6	A copper coin of 1 oz.	0	0	2
Pagoda	0	8	0				

These currency values were, however, subject to considerable alteration, and there was, moreover, a great diversity in the nominal value set upon the Spanish dollar at one and the same period. Labourers rarely saw this coin; they were paid for their work in goods at monopoly values, and their remuneration consisted chiefly of rum, the price of which was determined by the importers, who saved themselves from competition by a mutual agreement as to prices, entered into in 1797, by which they were bound neither to underbuy nor undersell one another. The goods purchased by the officers from speculative shippers were paid for in wheat receipts, in paymaster's notes, and in Spanish dollars. It was to prevent the depletion of silver currency that Governor Macquarie in 1813 adopted the expedient of striking the centre out of the dollar, and using the "dump" to denominate a fourth of the value of the original coin, which, however, still passed current as a convenient denomination of the value of 5s. Private soldiers, who for many years were paid in pence, were unable to trade with the shippers, as copper coin was token money, which, if its export had been allowed—as it was not—would have had an actual value of half its current rating. The disability of the private soldier to buy in the open market was, however, altered on Governor Bligh's arrival, for he issued their pay in paymaster's bills similar to those received by the officers.

The currency continued very much in the unsatisfactory condition described until the growing business of the country allowed of the opening of a bank. The proposal to establish a local bank had been brushed aside in 1812 by Lord Liverpool, who informed the Governor that silver to the value of £10,000 would be sent from India, in order to tide the Colony over its currency difficulties. This remittance, however, far from satisfied the needs of the community, and the Bank of New South Wales was opened for business on the 8th April, 1817. Its capital amounted to £20,000, divided into 200 shares. The bank was incorporated under a regular charter, and its affairs were controlled by a president and six directors. Its paper soon became the principal circulating medium of the Colony, and business was done in the discounting of bills of short date, and in the advance of money on mortgage securities. Government payments for provisions purchased locally continued to be made with receipts from the Commissary, which, when taken into the office, were consolidated by bills on the King's Treasury. Captains of vessels purchasing provisions in the Colony drew bills on

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the shipowners; while the commercial transactions of the inhabitants were conducted in currency dollars, copper, tradesmen's dockets, and the notes of the Bank of New South Wales. It is a peculiar fact, characteristic of the period, that a debt of more than £300 was regarded as one of honour, in consequence of the abuse of the privilege of appeal from the local courts to the King in Council.

When Major-General Lachlan Macquarie entered upon the government of the Colony on the 1st January, 1810, the population numbered 10,454 persons. The settlement was bounded on the north, west, and south by the Blue Mountains, beyond which no one had then been able to penetrate, though several attempts to do so had been made, and it was the general opinion that farther than 60 miles away no land suitable for tillage was likely to be found. Along the sea the Colony extended from Port Stephens to Jervis Bay, a distance of about 165 miles, and it was confidently stated that beyond these inlets settlement could not expand, the ground actually in cultivation amounting to rather more than 21,000 acres, together with 74,000 acres devoted to pasture. Macquarie's term of office was, however, brightened by the successful passage of Blaxland, Lawson, and Wentworth to the plains beyond the mountains, and the subsequent discoveries of new areas for settlement, which finally dissipated the idea, long entertained, that the Colony would cease to exist should the support it received from the British Treasury be withdrawn.

Second Industrial Period, 1821–1838.

The second period of the industrial history of the Colony begins with the assumption of office by Major-General Sir Thomas Brisbane at the the close of the year 1821, and includes the administration of Lieutenant-General Darling from the close of the year 1825 to that of 1831, and of Sir Richard Bourke from the close of the year 1831 to that of 1837. The area of the settlement was, during the whole of the period, continually being widened. In 1823 Allan Cunningham found a practicable route through Pandora's Pass to the rich Liverpool Plains. During the following year Lieutenant Miller formed at Moreton Bay an establishment which afterwards became the capital of Queensland. The first great journey of exploration by Major Mitchell to the north and north-west of New South Wales was entered upon in 1831. The journey proved rich in results, and added greatly to the knowledge of the Colony's resources. The unlocking of territory had an emphatic influence on the development of the country's industries, as settlement followed close on the heels of the explorers, and tended to provoke interest in the minds of English speculators, a great deal of whose capital began to seek investment in station properties.

The labour legislation of this period did not depart to any appreciable extent from earlier ideas. Under the provisions of a regulation issued

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on the 17th July, 1828, servants neglecting or refusing to work, or absenting themselves from their employment, could be sent by a magistrate to the common gaol or the house of correction for a term not exceeding six or three months respectively, with forfeiture of all wages due; and servants spoiling, destroying, or losing property were obliged to pay double the value of the article injured or lost under a penalty of being committed to gaol for a term of from one to six months. On the other hand, a servant had remedy against an employer's ill-usage to to the extent of six months' wages and cancellation of the agreement of service. Any person who employed a servant previously retained was liable to a fine of from £5 to £20, half of which was paid to the person aggrieved and half to the Benevolent Society. Subsequent labour legislation was even more repressive in its character, as will be seen later on.

The comparative scarceness of free labour and the high price which it commanded show forcibly the unprofitable nature of bond labour, which, though available for little above the cost of rations, was for some considerable time a drug in the market. This was especially the case during the period of extensive immigration which occurred under the administration of Sir Thomas Brisbane. The Government, therefore, was hard set to provide suitable employment for the prisoners left on its hands, the number of whom was constantly being augmented by the arrival of transports from the United Kingdom. To enable the Government to dispose of this labour, it was decreed that any free settler having an order from the English authorities for a grant of land could, by pledging himself to employ twenty bond servants, obtain a grant of 2,000 acres. There were, indeed, instances of settlers obtaining this quantity of land even without such an order, simply upon guaranteeing to relieve the Government of the expense of maintaining twenty men; and in 1826 the weekly sum of 3s. 6d., which had been, since December, 1821, payable to the Government as hire for an assigned artisan, was abolished. Assignment, it will be seen, was really a device adopted by the Government for the maintenance of the bond population with as little outlay as possible, and land was given away, not so much with the view of encouraging settlement, as of inducing holders to relieve the authorities of the cost of maintaining prisoners, for whom no profitable employment could be provided by the Government. The continual immigration of free settlers, however, rapidly used up the supply of assignable persons; the government farms were abandoned, and the penal settlements were broken up and their occupants distributed among those who wanted labour, until in Governor Darling's time the opposite condition was reached, and it was found impossible to satisfy the demand for assigned servants. The first result of the extended system of assignment of labourers to private employers was to leave the Colony without any reserve of labour which could be called upon in an emergency, so that in harvest and shearing times there was occasionally great scarcity of men available for employment.

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It was this need of hands on emergent occasions that gave rise to the scheme of assisted immigration, which began to take effect in 1832.

The whole of the social, economic, and political literature of this period was constantly insisting upon the growing disproportion between the proprietary class in the Colony, particularly capitalists who had invested in pastoral pursuits, and the labouring class, whose assistance was absolutely necessary in the effort to realise returns; and inducements of every description were held out to the agricultural peasantry of the United Kingdom to emigrate to the southern promised land. The reports of the immigration committees are particulary interesting, as are also the schemes, more or less practicable, advanced by philanthrophic pamphleteers for the colonisation of the country. The desire to procure cheap labour was not the only influence at work in the promotion of immigration; there was also an earnest wish on the part of some to secure population of desirable types in order to develop the resources of the country, and on the part of others to afford relief to the distressed peasantry of the United Kingdom. Judging by a report of a committee of immigrant mechanics, blacksmiths, carpenters, caulkers, joiners, stonemasons, stonecutters, and shoemakers easily found employment; while for all kinds of field-labourers, bush hands, dairy hands, shepherds, and shearers, the demand was very strong.

The introduction of a system of assisted immigration marked a vast change in the ideas of the governing powers since the departure of Governor Macquarie. Under his regime, not only was no encouragement offered to intending emigrants from England, but they were positively discouraged. This change of policy was due to the expanding effect that the opening up of new territory had on men's minds. So long as the Colony was shut in by the barrier of the Blue Mountains so long was it possible to keep it mainly a penal settlement; but with the discovery of the western plains all hope of doing this completely vanished. As the expense of a passage from England or Ireland rendered it difficult for mechanics to make their way to the Colony, the practice of paying a bounty for immigrants of a certain class was introduced. However, the number of mechanics brought out does not seem to have been large. The bounty was probably of most advantage to persons already in the Colony who desired to bring out their women folk and children. There was, however, as already mentioned, a fair influx of non-bounty immigrants; but it is not likely that these included many mechanics or labourers. They were principally enterprising men of small means, and professional persons anxious to practise their profession in the Colony, or failing that, to turn their hand to trade or squatting.

Lord Goderich, Secretary of State for the Colonies, being impressed about this time, 1831, with the great disproportion existing between the sexes, and desirous of remedying this state of things by the introduction of a number of unmarried female immigrants, recommended

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the setting aside of a portion of the revenue arising from the sale of Crown lands as a fund from which advances might be made, by way of loan, to assist in paying the expenses of the passage of desirable persons. From this time forward it became customary to regard the revenue derived from the sale of Crown lands as forming not a part of the income of the Colony, but a reserve available for the purpose of meeting the annual expense of bringing to the Colony immigrant labour, of which, for long years, it was so sorely in need. In 1831 it was estimated that the revenue accruing from land sales during the ensuing year would be £10,000, and the appropriation of this amount towards the encouragement of the immigration of unmarried females was sanctioned by the British authorities, with, however, a reservation to the effect that no other appropriation of capital derived from the sales of land in New South Wales should be made until the expense of £10,000 should be liquidated. The sum contributed to each female immigrant was £8—half the estimated cost of the passage out, the other half being made up by the immigrant herself. In the case of the funds proving deficient, a preference was given to females immigrating in company with their families over such as were unattached. It was subsequently recommended that a limited number of mechanics should also be assisted with advances to enable them to emigrate, and agricultural labourers were afterwards included among those to whom it was considered advisable to advance money by way of loan as an instalment of the passage-money to the Colony. The system, however, underwent certain changes from time to time, according to the amount of the land fund, the need for labour, and the enterprise of private settlers. In 1835 bounties were offered towards defraying the expense of the passage of immigrants, to such settlers as would charge themselves with their introduction. These ranged from £30 for a married mechanic or farm servant and his wife, the age of neither of whom exceeded 30 years, to £5 for each of their children whose ages should exceed twelve months; and included £15 for an unmarried female between 15 and 30 years of age, and £10 for an unmarried mechanic or male farm-servant between 18 and 25 years of age. Subsequently the system of assisted immigration was developed on other lines; but the principle of introducing rural labourers and their families, single women, and skilled artisans was steadily maintained throughout the whole of this period after its first adoption.

Under the regulations by which prisoners were assigned, employers were forbidden to give their servants regular wages; but it is well known that there were employers of assigned labourers who paid them wages, and that printers, for instance, received as much as a guinea and even more per week on account of their masters being under the impression that night-work could not otherwise be enforced. Butchers, blacksmiths, and others received 5s. per week, besides food and clothing; the printers, however, maintained themselves. The wages paid to free

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labour in the first years of Brisbane's administration was, for artisans and mechanics, from 5s. to 7s. per day without rations; and for agricultural labourers in 1828 from £20 to £30 per annum with rations, and in some cases even £50. In the towns especially, artisans, such as carpenters, could at this time earn 50s. per week, but wheelwrights and blacksmiths received about 36s. per week, and unskilled labourers from 3s. to 5s. per diem. Quarrymen appear to have been in special demand, and their labour has been recorded as worth 10s., and even 15s. and 20s. per day, though the last-mentioned amounts must have been given only in special cases. Compositors could obtain from 35s. to 50s. a week; but clerks and professional men had few opportunities to obtain employment. In 1830, when the population had increased to 46,300, the services of artisans of various classes appear to have been greatly wanted, and for some years afterwards every description of labour was in brisk demand, although the remuneration of skilled mechanics remained unaltered. The following statement shows the average wages paid during the period. It is probable that common labourers did not earn more than from 4s. to 5s. per week with rations and lodgings, and mechanics of the highest qualifications did not average more than £2 per week the year round. Where no quotations are given in this and following tables no reliable information is available.

Trade or Calling.	1823.	1833.	1835.	1836.	1838.
Per day, without board and lodging.					
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Blacksmith	6 0	7 0	7 0	6 8	7 0
Bricklayer	6 0	5 0	6 6	7 3	6 6
Brickmaker, per 1,000	6 0	9 0	9 0	5 3	9 0
Cabinet-maker	6 0	6 0	6 0	6 4	6 0
Carpenter	6 0	6 0	6 9	6 4	6 6
Caulker	7 6	7 6	8 6	6 9	.....
Cooper	6 0	6 0	7 6	6 6	7 6
Farrier	6 6	6 6	6 6	6 6	6 6
Ironfounder	6 3	6 3	6 3	6 3	6 3
Labourer	3 0	3 0	4 0	4 6	4 6
Millwright	6 6	6 6	7 0	7 3	7 3
Painter	.....	5 0	.....	5 4	.....
Plasterer	5 6	5 6	7 0	6 6	6 3
Quarryman	.....	5 6	5 0	5 6	4 6
Shoemaker	6 0	6 0	6 0	5 10	6 0
Stonemason	6 0	6 0	6 8	7 6	6 8
Tailor	.....	5 6	6 0	.....	6 6
Wheelwright	5 6	5 6	6 0	6 0	5 6
Per annum, with board and lodging.					
Agricultural labourer	22/10/-	22/10/-	22/10/-	22/10/-	25/-/-
Dairywoman	10/-/-	12/-/-	12/10/-	12/10/-	12/10/-

The wages of a shepherd during this period of the Colony's history are quoted by Sturt as ranging from £20 to £30 per annum, and of a shepherd's watchman at £20 per annum. A ploughman's remuneration

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for six months' work was quoted in 1835 at £20. Piecework was paid for as follows :—Picking weeds off fallow ground, 2s. per acre ; reaping, 8s. per acre ; carrying, stacking, and thatching, 10s. per acre ; and threshing grain from the ear, 6d. per bushel. The Select Committee of the Legislative Council, which sat in 1835, reported, after taking much evidence, that good mechanics could earn from 30s. to 40s. per week, and farm labourers from 7s. 6d. to 10s. per week with rations. One of the witnesses examined by the Committee stated that he paid shipwrights, coopers, and blacksmiths from 7s. to 8s., and sailmakers 6s. a day, adding, "We consider these wages too high, but find it impracticable to reduce them, as rather than take less the men will go out of work ; and they can afford to do so, because the wages of three or four days will suffice to maintain them for a week." Another witness said he paid millwrights, blacksmiths, and engine-drivers 42s. per week, and that a good carpenter could earn £3 3s., and a stonemason from £3 to £4 per week. All the witnesses were agreed as to the difficulty of inducing labourers to move into the country districts—a difficulty that told so severely against the agricultural and pastoral industries that in 1838 another Select Committee was appointed to consider the questions of labour and immigration. In contemporary evidence, however, the allusions to the difficulty of obtaining good men and to the high wages enjoyed by mechanics should be accepted with some caution. In a population numbering under 98,000 the demand for good men must have been limited, while the presence of bond labour and the necessity of finding employment for it may be expected to have interfered very seriously with the regularity of the work to be obtained by free men. There was probably in the country districts a demand for skilled labourers in excess of the supply ; but a glance at the foregoing table will show that the wages such men could earn did not offer an inducement at all commensurate with the discomforts and dangers, often imaginary, which they expected to encounter.

Prior to the year 1827 tea and sugar were almost invariably included as part of the rations issued to servants, but owing to the straitened circumstances of the settlers, the result of unfavourable seasons, and a fall in the price of live stock, the place of these was taken by milk. The weekly ration, as fixed by Government, was as follows :—12 lb. wheat or 9 lb. seconds flour, or in lieu thereof, at the discretion of the master, 3½ lb. maize meal and 9 lb. wheat or 7 lb. seconds flour ; 7 lb. beef or mutton, or 4½ lb. salt pork ; 2 oz. salt, and 2 oz. soap. Any articles beyond these which the master might supply were to be considered as indulgencies, which he was at liberty to discontinue whenever he might think proper. In 1828 the crop of the Colony was found insufficient for its needs. Grain had consequently to be imported, and a scarcity of breadstuffs was apprehended. The Governor, therefore, published a general order in which the rations issued to labourers in the public service were reduced to 7 lb. of bread ; and all persons and

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settlers having in their employ assigned servants were earnestly recommended to adopt a similar scale, and to make up for the reduction by increasing the ration of meat.

The prices of provisions fluctuated considerably, and especially was this the case in reference to such as had to be imported. Locally-produced provisions of all kinds were, however, generally plentiful at moderate prices, the ruling rates in 1823-24 being as follow :—

	s.	d.		s.	d.		s.	d.
Butter, per lb.	2	3	to	2	10	Fowls, per pair	3	4
Cheese, per lb.	1	3				Wheat, per bushel	8	0
Fresh pork, per lb.	0	6	,,	0	8	Maize, per bushel	6	0
Fresh beef, per lb.	0	6	,,	0	8	Barley, per bushel	5	0
Mutton, per lb.	0	6	,,	0	8	Potatoes, per cwt.	8	0
Bread, per lb.	0	3½				Eggs, per dozen	1	10

At this time only one market a week was held in Sydney, and in Parramatta markets were held only twice or thrice a year. The great drought which began in 1827 sent corn up to a very high figure, and forced settlers to dispose of their live stock in order to buy grain for the support of their household and establishments. All provisions, with the exception of meat, which became very cheap indeed, rose in price, and the crisis was accentuated by the collapse of the sheep and cattle speculation inaugurated a few years previously, about the time of the formation of the Australian Agricultural Company. The price of wheat from month to month ranged from 7s. to 14s. 9d. per bushel; of maize, from 7s. to 10s. 6d. per bushel; of barley, from 4s. to 9s. 6d. per bushel; of hay, from £10 to £17 per ton; and of straw, from 20s. to 35s. per ton. The drought appears to have been almost general, and, in the words of a writer of the time, it had "blasted the whole country"; while the future prospect of subsistence diet was confined to a little water and an abundant supply of meat, which was being retailed at 1¾d. a lb. Fortunately for the colonists of New South Wales, the proximity of Van Diemen's Land, where an exceptionally good crop had just been gathered in, prevented many of the dire effects that must have followed in the wake of long-continued famine prices for grain. Pork was quoted at 8d. per lb., and all vegetables were advanced to twice their ordinary price, while they had deteriorated by half their usual quality. The Sydney market, in December, 1828, supplied the following quotations :—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat, per bushel	9	0	Veal, per lb.	0	7
Maize, per bushel	11	0	Fowls, per pair	6	0
Flour, per 100 lb.	26	0	Ducks, per pair	9	0
Eggs, per dozen	3	0	Geese, each	10	0
Butter, per lb.	2	6	Turkeys, each	12	0
Bread, per 2 lb.	0	6½	Potatoes, per 112 lb.	25	0
Beef, per lb.	0	4	Barley, per bushel	5	6
Mutton, per lb.	0	5	Oats, per bushel	5	6
Pork, per lb.	0	8	Onions, per lb.	0	3

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The Governor, true to the traditions of his office, sought to meet the rigours of a season of drought by a general order, dated the 30th September, 1828, in which, with the view of enabling the bakers the better to meet the demands of the public, and of keeping down the price of bread as far as the means of the Government would permit, he signified his intention, until the ensuing crop should be available, of putting up to auction sale a portion of the wheat in the public stores on each successive market day, in lots of 24 bushels each, for the accommodation of the small dealers. These sales were to be conducted for ready money, and the profit, if any, after defraying the cost of the wheat and the charges incurred by the Government in procuring it, was to be appropriated to a fund for the supply to poor settlers of seed-maize. Fat cattle at this time were quoted at £3 per head, wethers and male lambs at 15s. each, female lambs at £2, and ewes at £2 and £3. During 1834 wheat fell as low as 3s. per bushel, and rose in the latter part of the year as high as 14s. Prices were, however, subject to much fluctuation, particularly with regard to those articles which were not produced in the country. The long absence of a ship from China with tea, or from the Isle of France with sugar, sometimes produced a rise in the price of these articles of from 100 to 200 per cent., to be followed on the arrival of the vessel by a relapse to ordinary prices. In 1832 bread was sold at from 7d. to 8d. per 2-lb loaf, and flour at from 14s. to 15s. per 100 lb. In 1835 beef was 2d. per lb., sugar 2½d., and tea 2s. per lb. In times of flood or drought flour has been known to rise from £15 to £50 per ton; and wheat from Van Diemen's Land fetched as much as £1 per bushel in 1828. In 1834 the price of flour was 33s. per 100 lb., and the reputed 2-lb. loaf sold at 8d.; maize was 3s. 6d. per bushel; beef, by the quarter, 1½d. per lb.; mutton, by the carcase, 2½d. per lb.; pork and veal, 3½d.; salt beef, 2¾d.; bacon, 1s. 2d.; potatoes, from 10s. to 12s. per cwt.; tobacco, 6d. per lb.; mould candles, 8d.; "dips," 5d.; soap, 4d.; salt pork, 5d.; fresh butter, 1s. 10d.; salt butter, 1s. 4d.; cheese, 6d.; the 4lb. loaf, 1s. 2d.; fowls, 2s. per pair; ducks, 3s. 6d. per pair; geese and turkeys, 4s. each; and eggs, 1s. 3d. per dozen. Ration bread was frequently made from the meal of barley, rye, oats, buck-wheat, Indian corn, peas, beans, rice, and potatoes; and the different classes of bread were distinguished as "Standard wheaten bread," "Household," and "Mixed."

Rentals in those days were high. In 1834 houses in Sydney, built on leases of ten years, and the whole expense of erecting which, including the lease-rent, did not exceed £200 each, were taken as soon as they were completed at a weekly rental of 25s. In 1835 the rent of a house of two rooms in Sydney was from 5s. to 10s. per week, and a cottage of two or three rooms commanded 14s. per week rental. Few houses were supplied with water, so that an additional outlay was involved to meet this necessity. Single men could obtain board and lodging for 10s. 6d. per week, though the amount generally varied

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between 12s. and 14s., if washing were included. Boots, shoes, coats, hats, and other articles of clothing appear to have been exceedingly dear.

The principal articles of manufacture were coarse woollen cloths, cabbage-tree hats, salt, candles, leather, boots, and drain-pipes and other earthenware. The export of wool rose very rapidly. Excluding the produce of Tasmania, in 1821 it was 175,400 lb.; in 1825, 324,000 lb.; and in 1830, 2,000,000 lb. The surplus produce of the coal-mines at Newcastle, after the wants of the Government establishments had been supplied, were authorised by a Government order, dated the 9th May 1822, to be sold at the pits to those wishing to purchase at a fixed rate of 10s. 6d. per ton, and the proceeds of such sales were collected at the Customs as the cargoes came to be discharged in Sydney. From the commencement of the year 1828 the revenue from these sales was directed to be paid over to the Commissariat Department as a contribution towards the maintenance of the bond population. The annual production of coal was usually about 4,000 tons; the mines were afterwards transferred to the Australian Agricultural Company.

During this period repeated efforts were made to improve the condition of the currency and reduce it to a fixed standard of sterling value and denomination. Up to 1826 the circulating media were mainly Spanish dollars and notes of the Bank of New South Wales expressed in Spanish dollars. A Government order, dated the 5th February, 1823, directed that the public accounts should be kept in dollars and cents, and this order remained in force up to the end of the year 1825. It continued, however, to be the almost universal practice in the Colony to express all rates and sums in the first instance under British denominations, thereby rendering it necessary, before any sum could be brought to account as prescribed in the general order, to calculate the amount in dollars, and the inconvenience of the operation was further increased by the diversity in the nominal value set upon the dollar. In ordinary business transactions this coin was rated at 5s.; in payment of the salaries of civil officers, at 4s., and from the 1st July, 1825, at 4s. 4d.; in the issue of pay to the military, at 4s. 8d.; and in the collection of Colonial dues, at the highest rate for which it was received by the latest public tenders made to the Commissariat. It is readily conceivable that so anomalous a system must have been attended with great inconvenience. It was determined, therefore, by the Lords Commissioners of the King's Treasury, to introduce into the several colonies a uniform currency of sterling denomination, and in furtherance of such determination British silver and copper money was sent to the Commissariat Department in the year 1826 to the amount of £50,200; in the following year to the amount of £13,210; and in 1829 to the amount of £20,000; giving for the years mentioned a total sum of £83,410. These remittances, with the sums introduced by private individuals in England, which were estimated at from £40,000 to £50,000, furnished the settlement with a circulating medium of British coin amounting to £130,000.

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Nevertheless, up to the year 1829 transactions between individuals continued to be regulated partly in British coinage or in Spanish dollars at the declared sterling value of 4s. 4d. each, and partly with reference to the former rate of the dollar, viz., 5s.; or, to employ the common appellation by which these two standards were distinguished, partly in "sterling," and partly in "currency." The tradesman's notes of this period were almost invariably expressed in "currency" denomination, and the rewards offered for various services in the columns of the contemporary press nominated amounts in Spanish dollars. After the arrival of the new coinage, as shown by contemporary evidence, the Colonial Treasury was for some time obliged to issue the dollar at its declared sterling value of 4s. 4d.

In connection with the question of the country's currency it is interesting to note a general order, dated the 22nd September, 1828, in which the Governor announced his willingness to receive the ring dollars and dumps issued under the proclamation of Macquarie in 1813, and to grant for them bills at the same rate as for British coin on the Lords Commissioners of the King's Treasury, or to give in exchange for them British coin to the value of 3s. 3d. sterling for the ring, and 1s. 1d. for the dump; but in a general order issued in 1829, sterling value of "currency" issued to troops was affixed to the French 5-franc piece, the 2-franc piece, and the franc; to the Sicilian dollar, or scudo, the piece-of-forty, and the piece-of-twenty; to the Spanish dollar; to the United States dollar; and to the Calcutta, Bombay, and Surat rupee. Indeed, the elimination of foreign currency seems to have been a very slow process.

The period under notice was marked by considerable mercantile and speculative activity. In 1826 the Bank of Australia was instituted, and in 1832 the Savings Bank was established by the Governor in Council, the latter institution allowing interest on deposits at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, with a division among the depositors of the surplus interest at the end of each year. The same epoch is famous also for the establishment of the Australian Agricultural Company, whose immediate influence upon the development of the country was not altogether of a favourable nature. The Australian Marine Assurance Company was established in 1831.

Up to the time of the advent of Sir Richard Bourke, the Governors had been empowered to make grants of Crown lands to private individuals, and charges were frequently insinuated of undue favouritism, to call it by no harsher word; and a retiring Governor was severely reprimanded for making a grant to his successor, who, on assuming the Government, made a similar grant to his predecessor. But in 1831 orders from the Colonial office directed the introduction of a new system with regard to the disposal of the Colony's Crown lands. All free grants were to be confined to such as were made to schools, churches, and other public institutions, and the only other method of alienation permitted was to be by sale at public auction, under a form

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of restricted competition. Prior to the limitation of the system of making grants of land, immigrants were entitled to receive from the Governor 1 square mile of territory for every £500 of capital immediately available for its cultivation, to the extent of 4 square miles or 2,560 acres—the limit within which the Governor was authorised to make grants to one individual. Persons possessed of a capital less than £250, clear of all expenses of reaching the Colony, were for a long time not considered as eligible to receive grants of land; but a subsequent regulation extended the privilege to them, as well as to natives of the Colony who were of good character, the grant in such cases comprising from 50 to 100 acres in any of the districts which had been set apart for the settlement of small farmers. The condition of tenure was actual residence upon the land granted. The regulations under which the grants were made were quashed by Viscount Goderich, afterwards Lord Ripon, who set upon all unalienated land in the Colony a minimum price of 5s. per acre. With the institution of this agrarian law, the industrial history of New South Wales entered upon a new phase of development.

Third Industrial Period, 1838–1843.

The third period in the industrial history of the Colony may be said to have opened under favourable auspices. Immigration was encouraged by votes of public money, and, as a consequence, the population within five years increased nearly 80 per cent., or at the rate of more than 15,000 a year. Settlement in the southern portions was gradually spreading, the discoveries made by Sir Thomas Mitchell and others having thrown open to occupation large areas of country, which gave to trade of all kinds a powerful impetus—an impetus which was accelerated by the amendment of the land laws. At the beginning of this period all available Crown lands could be rented under lease for the term of one year. The lease was put up to public auction at a rental of 20s. for each section of 1 square mile. In the event of the land being sold, the lessee was required to surrender it on one month's notice. Should the land not be sold, the lease was again put up to auction, whether the occupant made application to that effect or not; but should it not be re-let the fact was notified accordingly. The minimum price of land was raised by Act of Parliament in 1842 to 20s. an acre, although, of course, it sometimes fetched very high prices in select localities.

This raising of the minimum price of Crown lands immediately operated as a check upon the land sales, the revenue derived from this source rapidly dwindling away almost to nothing. In 1839 the sale of Crown lands realised £152,962; in 1840, £316,626; in 1841, £90,387; in 1842, £14,574; in 1843, £11,297; and in 1844, £7,402. It was an understood thing that the money received from the sale of the Crown lands

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was to be devoted exclusively to the promotion of immigration and the replenishment of the Colony's labour supply, without which cultivation could not be extended in an equal ratio with the acquisition of estates by capitalists and settlers; but when the land fund was exhausted there was necessarily an end to bounty-fed immigration, and Sir George Gipps, in his anxiety to raise money for this purpose, embroiled himself with the squatters by imposing upon them special agrarian legislation, which they considered particularly grievous and unjust. The previous Governor, Sir Richard Bourke, had treated the natural pasturage situated outside the "boundaries of location" as commonage, equally available to all desirous of making use of it for depasturing their flocks and herds, provided that it was not wanted by permanent settlers, and therefore he demanded from squatters making use of it only a yearly license fee of £10, to which was subsequently added, at the instance of these pastoral licensees, a small imposition of so much a head on all horses, sheep, and cattle, in order to provide for the establishment and support of a border police for service in the squatting districts. Under the Gipps regime, as the revenue from the sale of land had failed, it was thought that the squatters could be compelled to contribute to it by purchasing land at the minimum price, and thus to supply funds for immigration purposes. This measure of the Governor was met by a counter effort on the part of the squatters, who laboured, and that successfully, to obtain regular leases of their squattages, with fixity of tenure and pre-emptive rights. A war of interests was thus created between the pastoral and agricultural industries which took years of agitation and much legislation to allay.

The practice of assigning prisoners to selectors ceased about the beginning of this period. The dispatch directing Governor Bourke to discontinue the system was dated 26th May, 1837, and the system came to an end in 1838. This event made the introduction of free labourers almost imperative, and led to the activity in immigration already referred to. A Master and Servant's Act, passed during the administration of Sir George Gipps, throws considerable light upon the conditions of labour during the period. This measure provided that artificers, manufacturers, journeymen, workmen, shepherds, labourers, and other servants, who should refuse to serve the time of their engagements or return or leave any work uncompleted, or who should absent themselves from or refuse to work, might, upon the oath of one or more credible persons, be brought before two justices of the peace, and upon conviction, in cases where the amount due for work done did not exceed £30, be adjudged to forfeit all or part of the wages due at the time proceedings were instituted, and to pay a sum not exceeding twice the amount of any damage incurred through neglect, absence, or other cause. In default of payment, the offender was committed to the common gaol, without bail or mainprize, for any time not exceeding three calendar months, unless the amount in which he was mulct was

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sooner paid. Masters against whom judgment had been given for recovery of wages could, upon non-payment, be moved against by distress and sale, and for want of sufficient distress could be sent to gaol for a term not exceeding three calendar months if the claim was not sooner satisfied. Servants obtaining advances and afterwards absconding or refusing to perform the work for which they had been engaged, could also be sent to gaol for a term not exceeding three calendar months, or to the house of correction, with hard labour, for the same term; and in all these proceedings against workmen there was no need to prove the signatures of witnesses to indentures of service. Persons employing servants whose engagements with other persons had not expired were fined not more than £20, nor less than £5; and the servant who could be proved to have spoiled, destroyed, or lost property was adjudged to pay double the value of such property, and also, if a male, committed to gaol for a term not exceeding three calendar months. Female offenders were exempt from being sent to gaol under the provisions of the Act. Such were the restraints imposed upon both masters and workmen, and such the restrictive legislation, enforced with fines and imprisonment with hard labour, which the wisdom of our forefathers evolved to stimulate the industries of the young Colony, and to ensure its development.

An interesting relic of the period is preserved in the form of a labour agreement. So many disputes used to arise between master and man respecting wages and conditions of service that it became customary for employers and workmen to have written agreements. The following is a copy of one such document:—"Prosser's Plains, December, 1842. The undersigned, John Gudge, agrees to serve Mr. Nathaniel Olding as a farm servant on such work as may be required, to assist as gardener, or any other work, to work as a shoemaker for the family and establishment when required, for one year, for the sum of £25. One month's notice to be given. The weekly rations to consist of 12 lb. flour, or 14 lb. bread; 9 lb. mutton or beef, or 6 lb. pork; 1½ lb. sugar; and 2 oz. tea. All other things which John Gudge may require are to be charged against him as part payment of his wages."

When the State was compelled, by reason of lack of money, to leave the settlers to their own efforts in regard to procuring labour, various schemes were propounded by which a continuous and cheap supply might be obtained, and some of these were carried into effect. Mr. Benjamin Boyd introduced several shipments of natives from Tanna and the New Hebrides, and employed them as shepherds; but the experiment proved a failure, as the islanders would not apply themselves to the work. Moreover, the local legislature interfered, and interdicted, by enactments, what it regarded in the light of an attempt to establish a new slave trade. The attention of the colonists was, however, chiefly directed to the possibility of procuring labour from the East Indies or from China, but immigration from such sources was

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deemed unadvisable or unattainable. An agitation on the part of employers anxious to engage cheap labour from India was begun, only to be quenched shortly afterwards by a wave of counter-agitation on the part of the free labourers of the Colony. The largest public meeting ever held in New South Wales up to that time was convened to protest against the introduction of hill coolies from India. In the city of Sydney more than 4,500 signatures were obtained to a petition on this subject for presentation to the Queen; and Lord Stanley, Secretary of State for the Colonies, expressed, under date the 29th September, 1843, his disapproval of the project, and refused to it the sanction of the Imperial Government.

The Committee on Immigration, in its report to Sir George Gipps, stated that in consequence of the great dearth of labour, particularly of pastoral labour, the flock-masters had been driven to exhaust every expedient to increase the service derivable from the number of men then employed. Three or four times the ordinary and proper tale of sheep had, it was reported, been placed under the charge of each individual shepherd, and many squatters had been forced to abandon the rearing of lambs in consequence of being unable to provide for the care of augmented flocks. The demand for labour of a pastoral character appears to have been continuous; and fresh employers were ever arriving and adding their demands for labour to those of the existing settlers.

Appended is an interesting return of the immigrants who arrived in New South Wales during the year 1840, and of the amounts at which they were engaged :—

Males, per annum, with rations.

	£		£
1,032 Agricultural labourers ...	25	54 Grooms and coachmen	30
16 Bakers.....	50	6 Millers	40
10 Butchers	40	35 Ploughmen	26
2 Cooks	35	1 Seaman	48
61 Domestic servants	30	108 Shepherds	27
18 Farm overseers	40	2 Shopkeepers	40
62 Gardeners	40	8 Stockmen	27

Males, per day, without rations.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
59 Blacksmiths	7	0	1 Nailer	3	6
67 Boot and shoe makers ...	6	8	24 Painters and glaziers	6	0
1 Brazier	6	8	4 Plasterers	6	0
9 Bricklayers	7	0	1 Plumber	6	0
4 Brickmakers	7	0	11 Printers	8	0
19 Cabinet-makers.....	7	6	6 Quarrymen	5	0
83 Carpenters and joiners...	8	0	13 Saddle and harness makers	6	0
9 Coopers	6	8	13 Sawyers	10	0
7 Curriers	6	0	3 Shipwrights	10	0
7 Engineers	10	0	41 Tailors.....	7	0
1 French-polisher.....	6	8	9 Tinsmiths	6	0
30 Masons	7	0	9 Turners	7	0
22 Mill and wheelwrights...	6	8	2 Upholsterers	7	0
2 Miners.....	5	0	5 Watchmakers	8	6

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Females, per annum, with rations.

	£		£
19 Bonnet-makers	14	17 Kitchen-maids	14
26 Cooks	20	12 Ladies' maids	20
97 Dressmakers	18	2 Laundresses	18
313 Farm servants	14	14 Milliners	20
7 General servants	16	35 Nursery-governesses	20
517 Housemaids	15	138 Nurse-maids	10

In Sydney and other towns it was customary to hire workmen on wages only, lodgings and rations being their own concern; but in the country, not only shepherds and pastoral workers generally, but blacksmiths and wheelwrights and other artisans were lodged and rationed according to a regular scale. At the beginning of the period, carpenters, smiths, masons, shipwrights, wheelwrights, cabinet-makers, plumbers and glaziers, harness makers and shoemakers could earn from 5s. to 8s. per day; working overseers, gardeners, and woolsorters varying rates from £30 to £70 per annum, together with lodging and rations; ploughmen, stockmen, shepherds, and brickmakers, from £15 to £35 with lodging and rations; and labourers from £15 to £25 with lodging and rations, the rates of wages being regulated according to the capabilities of the workmen.

In 1839 there was a great increase in wages, an ordinary mechanic being able to earn from 8s. to 12s. per day, and a farm labourer from £20 to £30, with, of course, a hut to live in and his rations; but so far as artisans' wages were concerned their increase was coincident with a rise in the price of provisions. In the year 1840 contemporary opinion pronounces wages as being very high; shepherds, for instance, receiving from £30 to £40 a year and rations; labourers in Sydney sometimes as much as 7s. and 8s. per day; and female domestic servants £20 a year, with board and lodging. These were considerable advances on the wages of the old assignment times, when free labour was thought to be amply remunerated at £14 and £16 per year and rations. Wages fell in 1841, when mechanics could be hired at 7s. 6d. or 8s. per day, farm servants at £22 per year, and domestics at £12. In 1843 the wages of station servants, shepherds, hut-keepers, and others declined to £18 per annum, and even less. Sheep-shearing was paid for at the rate of 15s. per 100, and sheep-washing at 3s. per 100. The rations served out were valued at £12 per annum, and comprised flour, meat, tea, and sugar.

In 1838 and 1839 the crops failed, and in 1840 they partially failed; and during these three years, also, the price of wool declined from 2s. to 1s. per lb. For provisions in 1838, contemporary quotations were as follow:—Potatoes, from 7s. to 15s. per cwt.; bread, 4½d. per 2-lb. loaf; beef and mutton, from 4d. to 5d. per lb.; cabbages, from 2d. to 4d. each; flour, best, 17s. per cwt., and seconds, 13s. per cwt. The year 1839 was, however, a year of drought and scarcity, and prices rapidly rose to the position already indicated. Flour ranged from £50 to £80

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per ton; cattle from £8 to £10 per head; and sheep from 30s. to £2 per head. Clean wheat was quoted at £1 2s. 6d. per bushel; hay at £18 per ton; and fresh butter at from 3s. to 3s. 6d. per lb. Bread was sold at 7d. per 2-lb. loaf, with a subsequent rise to 8d.; potatoes from 1d. to 2½d. per lb.; meat, from 3d. to 5d. per lb.; and the prices of other articles in common use were proportionate. The Colony was at this time greatly dependent upon Van Diemen's Land for supplies of wheat and flour. Much of the grain-growing land in New South Wales had gone out of cultivation through exhaustion, and the increased interest taken in the raising of stock superseded agriculture to a considerable extent, and a period of scarcity at once threw the parent Colony on the grain resources of the island. In the period embraced from the year 1838 to the 22nd August, 1843, no less than 1,120,462 bushels of wheat, inclusive of that made into flour, were exported from Van Diemen's Land, the greater portion of which found its way to Sydney.

At the beginning of the year 1840 the price of flour in Sydney ranged from £30 to £41 per ton, and wheat was selling at from 12s. to 13s. per bushel; but as the year advanced wheat went steadily up in price, and the 4lb. loaf was 1s. 6d. Quotations for butchers' meat in the carcase were as follow:—Beef, 7d. per lb.; mutton, 5½d.; and pork, 10d. In the month of August flour at the Sydney mills ranged from £30 to £36 for fine, from £30 to £31 for seconds, and £28 for ration. A visitor to Sydney at this time quotes the following prices for various articles of diet:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Turkeys, each	25	0	Eggs, each	0	4
Geese, each	12	0	Butter, per lb.	4	0
Ducks, per pair	8	0	Milk, per quart	1	0
Chickens, per pair	6	0	English ale, per glass	0	6

The retail prices of provisions in Sydney for the quarter ending 31st December, 1841, were quoted as follow:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat, per bushel	6	8½	Meat, fresh, per lb.	0	4¾
Flour, per lb., from 3¼d. to	0	4¼	Salt, per lb.	0	2¼
Tea, per lb.	4	9	Soap, per lb.	0	9¼
Sugar, per lb.	0	5¼	Tobacco, per lb.	4	10¼

There was a general decline in the prices of provisions in 1842, when beef in the towns ranged from 2½d. to 4d. per lb., and mutton from 2d. to 3d. The price of flour during the same period ranged from £14 to £24 per ton. In 1843 wheat in Sydney ruled, according to quality, during a portion of the year, from 4s. to 5s. per bushel; and flour from £12 to £16 per ton. Meat was sold at 1d. per lb., and tea at 1s. 8d. per lb. At the end of the year wheat from Van Diemen's Land was

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selling in Sydney at 4s. 6d. per bushel, while the prices in the other Australian cities were as follow :—Hobart, 3s. 9d. ; Melbourne, 3s. 6d.; and Adelaide, 2s. 6d. per bushel.

House-rent and lodgings were very high-priced in Sydney, while in the country districts they were correspondingly cheap. A house suitable for the residence of a mechanic and his family cost from 15s. to 18s. per week. From the Census of 1841 it would appear that the demand for residential accommodation so considerably exceeded the supply that people were compelled to take up their quarters in habitations still in the hands of the builder, no less than 809 such dwellings being occupied prior to their completion. In the country districts a hut suitable for the residence of an agricultural labourer cost to erect about £10 ; but it was, of course, a very inferior description of building.

Notwithstanding the salubrity of the climate, and the reiteration of different writers as to the small amount of clothing necessary to be worn in New South Wales as compared with the United Kingdom, labourers, and particularly agricultural labourers, required a quantity of strong clothing, apart altogether from any question of climate ; and this in the year 1840, when wages were regarded as being particularly high, was fairly expensive. In 1842, when wages had fallen considerably, the cost of clothing still remained sufficiently high to constitute a serious drain on the earnings of a man in receipt of 6s. or 7s. per day, or from £19 to £20 per year with rations. According to a list of prices, bearing date 30th June, 1842, the following quotations represent the cost of the most necessary articles of clothing, and of some other goods, on that date :—

Men's Clothing.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Coloured shirts, each	0	3	3	Boots, per pair	0	10	0
Flush trousers, per pair	0	12	0	Socks, per pair	0	1	6
Moleskin trousers, per pair	0	12	0	Vests, each	0	4	0
Moleskin jackets, each	0	12	0	Shepherd's coats, each	1	10	0
Straw hats, each	0	5	0	Handkerchiefs, each	0	1	0

Women's Clothing.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Chemises, each	0	5	0	Aprons, each	0	2	0
Petticoats, each	0	10	0	Stockings, per pair	0	2	6
Gowns (print), each	0	10	0	Shoes, per pair	0	7	6
Bonnets and caps (print), each	0	9	3	Stays ,,	0	15	0
Shawls, each	0	10	0	Merino dresses, each	1	5	0

Other goods.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Blankets, per pair	0	12	0	Rugs, each	0	5	0

Mattresses, each 0 12 0

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Clothing was, however, the only thing which the yearly servant was obliged to purchase, save articles of luxury, such as tobacco, which he might have a desire for; abundance of the common necessaries of life, such as meat, bread, tea, and sugar, together with a hut to live in, being provided by the employer. From £7 to £10 per year might be allowed for the purchase of such rough clothing as was necessary for bush wear; hence, although the cost of living had increased considerably, the ultimate wages that remained to the labourer were higher during this period than at any time since the foundation of the Colony. These rates were not, however, long maintained. The position of the mechanic in the towns was somewhat different from that of the agricultural labourer in the bush. The former, besides having to bear the cost of clothing himself, was obliged to rent a house to live in or to hire lodgings, and to purchase food and fuel; but a mechanic earning £125 per year could allow £62 to cover the expenses of his own rations, including bread, meat, tea, and sugar, and house rent, fuel and clothing, and he would still have £63 left with which to provide for a wife and family, and this was a considerable advance on the labour conditions of the preceding period, or what were obtaining in England.

The opening years of the period were marked by the floating of assurance, auction, steam navigation, and other joint stock companies, and by general speculative activity. Capital for investment on behalf of English companies and on private account was abundant. The cessation of transportation, however, though it ultimately proved advantageous to the community, had an immediate result in stopping the expenditure in the Colony of large sums from the British Exchequer; the effects of this cessation of expenditure became visible almost simultaneously with a reaction after the inflation of 1839 and the following year. Prices fell, property became depreciated in value, and ruin impended. The action of the Government helped to bring matters to a crisis. The proceeds of the land sales, amounting at one time to fully £350,000, were lodged in the banks, and the highest rates of interest were exacted; hence the banks were obliged to reissue in discounts the proceeds of these identical sales, the original purchase-money for which was represented by paper. When the bounty system of immigration was at its height, the Government drew out their deposits almost as rapidly as they had lodged them. This course of procedure obliged the banks to suddenly restrict their discounts, and it also gave the initial downward impulse to the money market.

It was the fashion at the time to attribute all the reverses suffered by the Colony to a cessation of the system of assignment of bond labour; but this was obviously not the case, although it cannot be denied that the condition of affairs was temporarily made more acute by the policy of the Government. The period was one of commercial and social transition and adjustment, during which fresh financial and industrial conditions were being arranged, and the community

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was unconsciously preparing itself for vast changes and new developments. Repudiation was the order of the day, and hundreds availed themselves of the insolvency law, which came into operation on the 1st February, 1842, and was designated by the satirists of the time as "Burton's Purge," in allusion to the author of the legislation. A list of the insolvents in Sydney and its neighbourhood, from the last-mentioned date to the 4th August of the same year, a period of six months and four days, covered a sheet larger than a page of the *Morning Herald*, and comprised the names of 392 persons and firms. The liabilities of some of the estates were, considering the times, enormous, ranging from five to ten, twenty, thirty, forty, and fifty thousand pounds, while one failure was for £175,235. The total amount of the liabilities of these 392 insolvents was, in round numbers, a million and a quarter sterling, although many of them were able to show good assets. From the 1st February, 1842, to the 31st December, 1843, the insolvents numbered no less than 1,135; and of these 600 belonged to the eleven months ending the 31st December, 1842, and 535 to the succeeding year. During 1843 a local ordinance was passed for the abolition of incarceration for debt, and came into operation on the 1st April of the same year.

The failures caused credit to sustain a general and severe shock; there was an extreme contraction of the ordinary course of trade, a total absence of speculation in business, and, consequently, a great diminution in the amount of legitimate transactions. Vigorous efforts were made to realise funds for the discharge of existing debts, and property was forced into the market for sale until purchasers could hardly be found at any price, and the inevitable result was that persons known to be possessed of large properties were unable to meet their engagements. In most of the country districts orders on Sydney agents were the means of circulation used by the settlers, and when these no longer passed current, as in times of confidence and prosperity, specie (which did not really exist) was demanded, and thus great sacrifices were rendered compulsory, because property, though of intrinsic worth, possessed no exchangeable value. Historians of the period narrate cases of enforced sales in which sheep fetched very small prices, sometimes as little as 6d. being obtained for them, while cattle occasionally realised as little as 7s. 6d., and valuable horses only £3 each.

The Legislative Council, imagining that the very existence of the Colony was threatened by the prevailing state of things, sought to "avert ruin" (to use their own expression) by "pledging the public credit," but the Governor refused the Royal assent to the Bill passed for that purpose. It was then proposed to issue Treasury bills, but the Council would not entertain the idea. The failure of the Bank of Australia, the liability of whose shareholders was unlimited, brought affairs to a crisis, and it was proposed to relieve the shareholders by a Bill empowering the bank to dispose of its assets by a public lottery.

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No attempt was made to defend lotteries in general, but it was contended that if the goods of proprietors of the bank were seized under execution, the bailiff would be seen in possession of one house in every ten in Sydney, and the result would be a panic which would altogether annihilate the value of property. Under pressure of such an argument as this, the "Lottery Bill" passed, but was disallowed by the British authorities. The necessity of the case was so urgent, however, that the lottery took place, and was successfully completed before the law officers of the Crown could interfere to prevent it.

When matters were at their worst, and the price of sheep had fallen, as a common quotation, to 1s. per head, there was made what was hailed as a "great discovery," viz., the boiling down of sheep exclusively for tallow, for which product there was then a good market in Europe. The price of sheep was thus raised to 3s. or 4s. per head, 5s. or 6s. worth of tallow being obtained by the process of boiling down. Consequently, in a brief space of time tallow began to occupy a chief place as an article of export with wool and coal. Other staple products were sperm oil, black whale and sea-elephant oil, seal-skins, wattle-bark, salt beef, hides, sheep-skins, and kangaroo-skins. The meat-canning industry was attempted by Mr. Sizar Elliott, of Charlotte-place, Sydney, and by Mr. Laidley, but it was not a success financially, although the preserved meats were, it is said, of excellent quality.

Commercial relations were opened up during the period with Hong Kong, as well as with British India; and the trade, which was principally in horses, was of a profitable character. For some of the general exports of the Colony, the prices ruling in the London market in the year 1840 were as follow:—Bark (mimosa), per ton, £11 to £12; gum (kino), per cwt., £20 to £30; hides, per lb., 3¾d. to 4¾d.; oil (southern), per tun, £24 to £25 10s.; sperm oil, per tun, £110 to £111; whalebone, per ton, £135; wool, per lb., 10d. to 2s. 7d.; and cedar, per foot, 4½d. to 5½d. During the year 1839, the exports of the product of the southern fisheries comprised 12,029 tuns of black oil, valued at £41,341, despatched principally to Great Britain; and 12,079 tuns of sperm oil, valued at £111,280. The fisheries were, however, an industry which the Colony was outgrowing, and they were being eclipsed in the value of their export by wool. In the year 1840 the product of the fisheries exported was valued at £224,144, while the wool exported was valued at £566,112, and the latter thenceforward began to be regarded as the leading staple of the Colony. Towards the close of the period the whale and seal fisheries became gradually diverted from Sydney control into the hands of Americans, who subsequently absorbed almost the entire industry in Southern waters. Some of the products of the fisheries continued to find their way to Sydney for re-export after the industry ceased to be prominently an Australian one, but even this advantage to the port ceased shortly after the gold discovery.

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Fourth Industrial Period, 1843–1852.

This epoch in the industrial history of the Colony is intimately associated with the names of Sir George Gipps and Sir Charles Augustus Fitzroy. The closing years of the previous period were, as just narrated, marked by financial failures and general insolvency. It was a time when a live sheep was found to be worth less than the fat of a dead one; when wool had fallen 50 per cent. in price in the London market; when the profit derived from the whaling industry was suffering a serious shrinkage; when all commercial activity was in a condition of languishment, and speculation was practically at an end.

Although the year 1843 ushered in a period of depression and long-continued distress, an intermittent system of immigration was carried on, but not nearly to the extent desired by the settlers. Nevertheless, while the Legislative Council was petitioning for the continuous introduction of a due supply of shepherds and agricultural labourers, the Government during the same year was compelled to give employment to a great number of labourers. Many workers left the Colony for Valparaiso and other places, and certain discontented immigrants had departed from Port Phillip for the Cape of Good Hope. The probability is that it was not labour which was hard to obtain, but "cheap" labour, and to meet this demand various expedients were resorted to, the one finding most favour being the proposal, revived from time to time, to introduce hill coolies from India. This proposition was, however, not only opposed by the people of the Colony, but, as before stated, the Secretary of State refused to it the sanction of the British authorities.

The demand for labour at this period was confined almost wholly to shepherds and other pastoral workers and domestics. The Governor, in despatches under date of August and September, 1843, stated that in Sydney considerable numbers of workmen had been thrown out of employment in consequence of the check that the building trade had received by the general pecuniary distress and the reduction in house-rents, and he added that the arrival of immigrants in any great numbers under such circumstances must prove injurious to all parties. The policy, however, pursued by the Legislature, which represented exclusively the interests of the propertied class, was to promote competition in the ranks of labour by excessive immigration. During the year 1844, as many as 10,000 and 12,000 immigrants were demanded as an annual "export" from the United Kingdom; but the sales from the waste-lands of the Colony had practically ceased, and there was no other fund from which the passage of immigrants could be paid, and great discontent was manifested because the British Government entered into a contract for the free transmission of only 4,000 adults. In 1846 requests were made by the Legislative Council for the despatch from the United Kingdom to New South Wales of 12,500 emigrants annually, to be made up of 4,000 or more men, an equal number of women, and, in the

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case of married couples, of an equal proportion of children; the same ratio of immigration to be continued for a period of not less than three years. The Governor recommended that the immigrants imported at the public expense during the year in question should number 4,000; and during the ensuing two years 9,000. The fact is, that elaborate calculations were for ever being made of a proportionate occupation of new lands, and a proportionate increase in flocks and herds, based on the experience of past prosperous periods. No allowance was made for the possibility of the new areas opened up turning out sterile, arid, and unadapted for grazing purposes; no discount was allowed for flood or drought, or a fall in the price of the staple; hence the requisitions for the introduction of labour for years ahead were nearly always based upon an over-estimate, and the unfortunate immigrants were, of course, the principal sufferers.

Many of the large stock-holders of this period were enthusiastically in favour of a return to the old system of the assignment of bond labour, although the inhabitants of the towns were naturally just as keen opponents as the property-owners were advocates of that policy. The scheme of compromise in this regard proposed by the British Government met with little favour from either party, and the idea of making the Colony a probationary dumping-ground for holders of tickets-of-leave, who had been provisionally punished in the English hulks prior to being deported on a sojourn of a reformatory character in a distant colony, among a rapidly-increasing free community, was scouted with vehemence on nearly every side, although an influential minority worked steadily for its accomplishment. It was generally argued that the adoption of such a system must utterly destroy the value of free labour and annihilate wages, while the mere fact that New South Wales had managed to slip her early shackles was held by many to be a sufficient reason for resisting any attempt to reimpose them, no matter what euphemism might be adopted to cloak the movement.

A considerable number of the flockmasters held the view—a perfectly reasonable one—that while the morale of the probationers would be no better, and probably, on account of greater license, much worse than that of the assigned servants of a former day, their own punitive control over their labourers would be very much less. The free immigrants, compelled to work for their living as employés of others, scented dangerous competitors, whose introduction into the Colony might result in a depreciated wage; and the employers of the emancipated class saw only the revival of a caste reproach, and the recrudescence of hated social distinctions. It must not, however, be imagined that Lord Stanley and Earl Grey acted with any special inconsiderateness in continuing the transportation of convicts to New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land. The great employers, the absorbers of "abundant and cheap labour," were the real rulers of the country. From their ranks were chosen the members of the Legislative

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Council; they had the ear of the Governor; and the Governor, in turn, had the ear of the Secretary of State for the Colonies; while the English authorities were only too anxious to relieve the over-crowded condition of their gaols. Two powerful interests, therefore, were allied in an effort to re-establish transportation and the system of assignment. To meet this threatening combination, a number of public meetings were held in Sydney under the auspices of the Anti-transportation League, and an overwhelming expression of popular opinion, most vehemently adverse to the scheme, was given; nevertheless the British Government, under the advice of Sir Charles Fitzroy, persisted in its endeavours to force prisoners upon the unwilling inhabitants of the Colony.

Several ship-loads of convicts were sent out, and an attempt was made to land them in at the new settlement at Port Phillip. The settlers there, however, would not tolerate the proceeding, whereupon the ships were compelled to leave for Sydney and Moreton Bay. One of the vessels, named the Hashemy, cast anchor in Port Jackson, on the 8th June, 1849, and there instantly ensued a serious contest between the inhabitants and the Executive. Immediately upon the fact becoming publicly known that the Hashemy was off the Heads with convicts on board, the people of the metropolis were lashed into a fever of excitement, and a great public meeting was forthwith convened to consider what steps should be taken in this pressing emergency, as it was universally considered. The result was that the Government saw fit to forbid the landing of the prisoners at that time, not caring to face the obloquy and public indignation which the adoption of any other course would certainly have brought upon them. As, however, the Hashemy could not be sent back, and her prisoners could not permanently remain on board, a compromise was entered into. The prisoners were removed from the ship, and a large number sent to Moreton Bay, in order that the settlers in that district might have an opportunity of hiring them. The remainder were allowed to be assigned to various persons in the Colony, though it was stipulated that the men should not be landed in Sydney, nor employed in the county of Cumberland.

The Legislative Council afterwards proceeded to take action in the matter, and a resolution was prepared to the effect "that an address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Order-in-Council which declared New South Wales a Colony to which convicts might be sent, be at once revoked." The adjournment of the Council was, however, agreed to before the motion could be put. In consequence of this partial shelving of the question a great public meeting was held, at which it was decided to petition the Council to use its utmost endeavours to prevent the revival of transportation in any form. The petition, within a short time, was signed by upwards of 35,000 persons, or by more than two-thirds of the population of Sydney. There was no resisting this manifestation of public opinion, and the pro-transportation members temporarily withdrew from the Council, whereupon the motion just stated

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was carried unanimously, and the address to the Queen was accordingly transmitted. The Order-in-Council was revoked, and transportation to New South Wales was thus, after many years of fretful agitation on both sides, finally abolished.

With the disappearance of the convict from the stage of industrial life, the immigrant became an object of greater attention than ever before. Various schemes were mooted by the sheep and cattle breeders to procure labour at the old rates. One of these schemes was the introduction of expired-sentence men from Van Diemen's Land, and associations were formed for the purpose, both in the parent Colony and at Port Phillip. That the efforts of the associations were not ineffective is proved by the fact, given in a return printed by order of the Council, that in 1847 the number of persons leaving Van Diemen's Land for the other colonies amounted to 4,787; in 1848, to 3,799; in 1849, to 4,617; in 1850, to 4,146; and in 1851, to 6,931; or a total for five years of 24,280.

Towards the close of the period, and in consequence of the decline of several of the leading industries, a new view began to be taken of the possibilities of the climate of New South Wales, inclusive, of course, of the northern sub-tropical districts of what has since become the Colony of Queensland; and regulations were issued with the view of promoting the introduction of foreigners to cultivate such commodities as wine, oil and silk, which could not be produced in the United Kingdom, and for the tending or manufacture of which skilled labourers could not consequently be obtained in the mother country. Such colonists, therefore, as desired to employ their land and capital in the production of the commodities indicated, were offered by the Government a bounty of £36 for a married man and his wife (the age of neither of whom should exceed 50 years), and a bounty of £18 for each child, male or female, above the age of 14 years, accompanying both parents, or one of them. It was recognised that the definition of the foreign labourers for whom bounties would be allowed was necessarily impossible, and any attempt at such definition would have been inconsistent with the object in view—to provide a supply of labour requisite for the progressive development of the capacities of the soil as they might from time to time become known. As a general rule, however, the Government intended to limit the allowance to such labourers as were requisite for raising articles which were the produce of the soil, and for bringing them into their simplest marketable shape. In illustration of this principle, wine and silk were instanced, viz., that in the case of the former, bounties should be offered for every description of labourers necessary for the culture of the grape, and the manufacture and casking of wine; and in the case of the latter, for all labourers required for the production and preparation of the raw material, but not for its manufacture. Under this regulation, bounties were not allowed for such persons as overseers, nor for any labourers obtainable from the United Kingdom.

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The number of each class of immigrants forwarded to the Colony, and arriving in Sydney during the course of a year (1848), is shown in the following table :—

Class of Immigrants.	Males.	Females.
Agricultural labourers	1,782	.....
Shepherds	171	.....
Other labourers employed in the management of stock or cultivation of the soil	79	.....
Domestic servants	41	1,542
Mechanics engaged in erecting buildings or in obtaining or preparing building materials	264	.....
Tradespeople engaged in preparing or selling articles of food	53	.....
Tradespeople engaged in making articles of clothing	20	75
Other tradespeople, mechanics, etc.	331	15
Total	2,741	1,632

A curious fact of this period is to be found in the return to England of expired-sentence men. While the Government were vainly petitioning for immigrant labour, the expense of the introduction of which they were prepared partially to bear, acclimatised and experienced workers were leaving the Colony as rapidly as they could, and paying their own passage-money to the mother country.

About the year 1849 the emigration from Australia to California, which had set in as a result of the discoveries of gold in this State, began to grow more and more noticeable. In the month of July, during three weeks, three vessels sailed, conveying from Sydney upwards of 100 passengers. In 1850 the desire to emigrate to California had become general, and the most stringent regulations were found to be necessary to prevent overcrowding on the outgoing vessels. During the first six months of 1851 twelve ships left Port Jackson, conveying to the new gold-fields of America 1,684 passengers, many of whom had been introduced into the Colony at the expense of the Land Fund. This migration was not, however, exactly a real exodus. Numbers of genuine settlers doubtless left the country during the long period of depression, dazzled by a rising star of fortune in the east; but many who left the Colony were persons who had simply made the bounty system of emigration to Australia the means of proceeding at a smaller cost to the gold-fields in western America. In 1851, when gold was discovered also in New South Wales, the tide of immigration to the Colony not only set in in a steady volume, but the impulse to emigrate from Australia was arrested, and California, in the matter of population, ceased to profit at the Colony's expense.

Wages varied very considerably during the period under review. Different contemporary authorities give different accounts; but the rate of wages depended, no doubt, upon the distance of a district from the seaport, and its accessibility to Sydney or to Melbourne. In the Port

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Phillip District, for instance, wages appear to have been higher at this time than in New South Wales proper, and they varied very much even in the parent Colony. In the southern districts, during the year 1843, station servants, hut-keepers, and shepherds received £18 per annum with rations; in the more central districts shepherds' wages ranged from £15 to £20 per annum, together with rations; and the wages of some classes of farm labourers, such as good ploughmen, from £20 to £25. Domestic servants received from £12 to £15, and even £20, "according to abilities." The wages of artisans were, in 1845, quoted at rates varying from 2s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. a day; and employment moreover, even at such low remuneration, was exceedingly difficult to obtain. In 1849, while the mechanics of Sydney were suffering great distress for lack of employment in their respective trades, and were being roughly censured by the local press because they would not go into the bush and labour as hut-keepers and "rouseabouts," newly-arrived immigrants were being engaged at the following rates:—Single girls as domestics, 5s. per week and rations; general farm-labourers, from £16 to £18 per year and rations; and ploughmen at from £20 to £25 per year and rations, house, water and fuel found. In some cases experienced shepherds, who thoroughly knew the conditions of the climate, and the variations of pasturage, received £30 a year and rations. In the year 1850 stockmen and shepherds received from £15 to £18 a year; bullock-drivers and ploughmen, from £18 to £20; and male domestic servants from £17 to £22; in all cases, of course, inclusive of rations, lodgings, fuel, and water.

In the following table, which gives the average medium rate of wages for each year during the entire epoch, may be traced the emergence of the Colony from the depression of 1843 to the hopeful new conditions of 1852:—

Trade or Calling.	1843.	1844.	1845.	1846.	1847.	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.
Males, per day, without board and lodging.										
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Carpenters	5 0	4 0	4 0	5 2	5 6	5 3	4 9	4 6	6 5	9 0
Smiths	5 0	4 0	4 3	5 2	5 6	5 3	4 9	4 6	6 8	9 0
Masons	5 0	4 0	4 0	5 2	5 6	5 3	4 9	4 6	7 8	9 0
Bricklayers	5 0	4 0	4 0	5 2	5 6	5 3	4 9	4 6	6 0	9 0
Wheelwrights	4 0	3 6	3 3	4 8	5 0	5 3	4 9	4 6	6 4	9 0
Males, per annum, with board and lodging.										
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Farm labourers	15	15	18	20	23	21	18	18	20	28
Shepherds	14	14	17	20	23	21	18	18	20	28
Females, per annum, with board and lodging.										
Cooks	15	15	18	20	22	21	17	17	20	22
Housemaids	15	15	15	17	17	17	14	13	16	16
Laundresses	12	12	15	17	19	18	15	15	16	20
Nursemaids	10	10	12	15	16	14	9	9	9	16
General servants	12	12	16	16	18	16	12	14	16	17
Farm-house servants	10	10	12	16	17	16	12	11	13	14
Dairy-women	10	10	12	16	17	16	12	11	13	14

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Rations, valued at about £12 per annum, were supplied to such employés as station servants, hut-keepers and shepherds. The weekly ration, as stated by a Select Committee on Immigration, comprised 10 lb. meat, 10 lb. flour, 2½ lb. sugar, some tobacco, and ¼ lb. tea. If wages were low during the first portion of the period, so also were provisions, and the cost of living was very considerably reduced, bread selling at from 2½d. to 3d. the 2-lb. loaf; meat, from 2d. to 3d. per lb.; sugar, from 2½d. to 3d.; and wheat, from 4s. to 6s. per bushel; while dairy produce and vegetables were plentiful and cheap. In 1844 beef and mutton in Sydney were sold retail at 1½d. and 2d. per lb., and other commodities were proportionately cheap. The following are Sydney market quotations for the year mentioned:—

Wheat, per bushel	2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.	Pumpkins, per doz.	2s.
Maize, per bushel	1s. 0d. ,, 1s. 4d.	Beef, per qr., per lb.	0s. 0½d. to 0s. 0¾d.
Oats, per bushel	2s. 0d. ,, 2s. 6d.	,, retail, per lb.	0s. 1½d. ,, 0s. 2d.
Barley, per bushel	2s. 6d. ,, 3s. 0d.	Veal, per lb.	0s. 3d. ,, 0s. 3½d.
Bread, per 2-lb. loaf	2d.	Poultry, per pair	2s. 0d. ,, 2s. 6d.
Butter, fresh, per lb.	0s. 10d. to 1s. 0d.	Rabbits, per pair	4s. 6d. ,, 5s. 0d.
,, salt, per lb.	9d.	Sheep, each	6s. 0d. ,, 8s. 0d.
Flour, per ton	£8 to £8 10s.	Fat cattle, per head	£2 5s. ,, £2 15s.
Potatoes, per ton	£1 10s. to £2	Milch-cows (including calves), per head	£1 15s. ,, £3 15s.
Eggs, per dozen	6d. to 8d.		
Peas, per peck	6d. ,, 8d.		

In 1845 flour was quoted at £10 per ton, cattle at £1 per head, and sheep at 5s. per head. Provisions appear to have remained fairly cheap, throughout the period, in all parts of the Colony. In 1847 Melbourne market quotations gave potatoes as selling retail at 3s. 6d. to 4s. per cwt.; most kinds of fruit and vegetables at low rates; geese and turkeys at from 6s. to 7s. each; ducks at from 3s. 6d. to 4s. per pair; fowls, from 3s. to 3s. 9d. per pair; eggs, at from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d. per dozen; and butter at from 1s. to 1s. 2d. per lb. In the month of March, 1848, wheat was quoted in Sydney at 5s. per bushel; meat at 2d. per lb., and tea at 2s. 3d. The prices of provisions in Sydney markets in 1849 were according to the following rates:—

Wheat, per bushel	4s. 0d. to 4s. 3d.	Geese, per pair	6s.
Maize, per bushel	1s. 8d.	Ducks, per pair	4s.
Flour, fine, per ton	£11	Fowls, per pair	2s. to 3s.
,, per lb.	1½d.	Beef, per lb.	2d. to 3d.
Potatoes, per ton	£6	Mutton, per lb.	1½d. to 3d.
Butter, per lb.	8d. to 9½d.	Veal, per lb.	4d.
Cheese, per lb.	4d.	Lamb, per lb.	4d.
Bacon and ham, per lb.	4½d.		

The retail prices of articles in general use were as follow:—Fresh butter, 1s. per lb.; milk, 3d. per quart; candles (colonial-made), 4d. per lb.; cheese, 6d. per lb.; coffee, 1s. 1d. per lb.; tea, 2s. per lb.; moist sugar, 3d. per lb.; refined sugar, 6d. per lb.; colonial tobacco, 9d. per lb.; and other articles of ordinary consumption at like low prices. A sheep could be purchased at from 4s. 6d. to 6s., and a milch-

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cow at from 20s. to 30s. In the fall of the year, however, fat cattle were quoted at £5 per head, and beef and mutton were sold at the unusual prices of 4d. and 5d. per lb., but meat did not long remain so dear. In December, 1849, prime beef was quoted at 6s. 4d. to 8s. per cwt.; mutton was selling at 2d. per lb.; fat stock had declined to 50s. a head; and wheat was quoted at 3s. 8d. per bushel. In 1850 beef was retailed in Sydney at from 1d. to 1½d. per lb.; tea was 1s. 6d. per lb.; sugar, 2½d. per lb.; and wheat, 3s. to 3s. 6d. per bushel.

House rent remained comparatively high, notwithstanding that building was at a standstill, that mechanics were looking vainly for employment, and that house property had fallen 33 per cent. in value consequent upon the emigration of people to California. A return dated 1849, which dealt with franchise qualifications, showed that there were within the limits of the city of Sydney 288 houses with a rental of under £5 per annum; 1,493 with a rental of £5 and under £10; 1,757 with a rental of from £10 to £20; and 4,204 with a rental of £20 and upwards.

About the beginning of the year 1844 some slight reaction was experienced in the trade of the Colony, and the depressed state of local interests was felt to be reviving. Contemporary writers hailed the new year as a fresh starting-point for renewed enterprise and confidence; but, unfortunately, the condition of things was in no way permanently improved, and the depression shortly afterwards became more pronounced than ever. Australia, however, had no exceptional experience, and there is little doubt that the local disasters were but the back-wash of the wave of depression which rose in Europe. Throughout the whole of the eastern colonies the greatest distress was felt, and many mercantile houses whose credit had hitherto been undoubted, and who proudly dated their establishment from the foundation of the settlements, were laid prostrate.

Boiling-down, meat-canning, and other devices were resorted to in order to revive the commerce of the Colony from the stagnation and lethargy into which it had fallen, yet notwithstanding all expedients affairs steadily became gloomier, prices continued seriously to decline, and speculation was practically at a standstill. It is difficult to imagine to what depths the Colony might have sunk had it not been for the discovery of gold in 1851, when the face of everything, as if at the word of a magician, became instantly changed, although the full influence of the discoveries was not felt until the following year.

The industries during this period comprised sheep and cattle-breeding, whaling, and sealing, coal-mining, horse-breeding, general and dairy farming, timber-getting, and gold-mining. Boiling down sheep and cattle for their fat was, of course, only an effort to realise something on depreciated stock—an expedient which cannot be regarded as a legitimate industry at all; while the southern whale fisheries were passing into the hands of the Americans. From time to time small vessels

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were sent to collect trepang on the northern coast, and this was subsequently exported to China, where it commanded a ready market; but it appears that the industry was not sufficiently remunerative, and it was, therefore, allowed to fall off. The production of tallow, just prior to the discovery of gold, was, to all intents and purposes, the Colony's staple industry. In the fall of the year 1847 a local journal bewailed the fact that the production of a yearly output of 10,000 tons of tallow necessitated the slaughtering of 75,000 head of cattle (sufficient to feed 90,000 people for one year, at the proportion of 10 lb. of meat per week each), and 400,000 sheep (sufficient to feed 40,000 people).

The manufacturing progress of the Colony during this period can be fairly gauged by the following table, which shows the increase in the number of the various industrial establishments from 1829 to 1848:—

Establishments.	1829.	1848.
Distilleries	3	2
Rectifying and compounding establishments	.....	2
Breweries	6	21
Sugar refining works	.....	2
Soap works	3	18
Candle factories	3	
Tobacco and snuff factories	.....	4
Cloth factories	6	6
Hat-making establishments	2	4
Rope-works	.....	4
Tanneries	11	40
Salt-works	2	2
Salting and preserving meat works	.....	5
Gas-works	.....	1
Potteries	.....	7
Glass-works	.....	1
Smelting-works	.....	1
Iron and brass foundries	.....	13

The following mills were also at work:—

Steam-engine corn-mills	4	65
Windmills	16	26
Water-mills	10	43
Horse-mills	8	38

The Colony's principal exports at the beginning of the period were wool, tallow, oil, skins, coal, bark, and salt beef; and, at the close of the period, gold was added.

Fifth Industrial Period, 1852–1858.

The fifth period of the Colony's industrial history extends from the year 1852 to 1858, and is properly the period of gold-hunting throughout the eastern Australian Colonies, and even in New Zealand. It begins shortly after the separation from the mother Colony of the Port Phillip District, and its formation into a separate province under the name of Victoria, and closes just prior to a subsequent dismember-

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ment, in which originated the northern Colony of Queensland. The whole epoch may be summarised as one of rapid growth and great change, ushered in with the rush for gold, and ending with the subsidence of the intense excitement and the stoppage of immigration. The first half of the period is associated with the concluding years of Sir Charles Augustus Fitzroy's term of office; the second half with a portion of Sir William Denison's administration. The epoch is chiefly interesting politically on account of the initiation of responsible government, the first elected Parliament of New South Wales assembling on the 22nd May, 1856; and commercially, because of the construction of the first railroad in the Colony, and the establishment of steam communication with Great Britain, the Chusan, the first steamer from England, arriving in Sydney on 31st August, 1852.

The discovery of gold not only put an end to the depression of the previous period, but it prepared the Colony, by the creation of fictitious values, for another depression, and effected a revolution in all industrial relations. According to contemporary evidence, the supply of labour in many occupations speedily became exhausted, and there were more persons desirous of hiring labourers than there were labourers to be hired. The diggings drained not only Melbourne and Sydney, but Adelaide, Hobart, and every other Australian centre. Most branches of industry and all public works were at a standstill. In 1852 it was estimated that no fewer than from 8,000 to 10,000 men were engaged in gold-mining in New South Wales alone. In 1856, when the output had fallen considerably, the number of gold-miners, according to the figures given in the Census returns collected during that year, was 4,451. Mr. Christopher Rolleston, then Registrar-General, insisted, however, that these figures indicated only those residing on the gold-fields on the 1st March, 1856, who were then actually engaged in digging for the precious metal, and who comprised probably not more than one-third of the number that at different seasons of the year were in the habit of leaving their usual callings to try their luck at digging for gold. As bearing upon the same question, it is interesting to note that the number of persons who found employment in pastoral pursuits fell from 15,619 in 1851 to 12,387 in 1856, notwithstanding an increase of over a million in sheep, and of half that number in cattle. The decrease in the number of hands was not due to improvements effected in the management of station properties, but to the desertion of shepherds and persons tending cattle, who left the uneventful life of the pastoralist to join in the search for gold, principally in the neighbouring Colony of Victoria, which province had absorbed over 30,000 persons, chiefly able-bodied adults, who had crossed the river Murray to the gold-fields of the south, and had never returned.

The gold fever brought to Australia not only young, stalwart, enterprising men of great endurance, and capable of adapting themselves to almost any conditions of life, but also multitudes of others whose

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chief idea was that wealth could be acquired almost without exertion. Unable to endure the hardships of a digger's lot, without trade or profession, and capable of only the lightest manual labour, they mostly drifted back to Sydney, where a large number of unemployed had gathered together in 1858, when the rush to the Port Curtis gold-field broke out. Joining the unemployed from the mines of Victoria and New South Wales, they rushed in thousands to the new field, no less than 4,000 leaving Sydney in the space of a month, while 6,000 went from other parts of Australia. A few weeks sufficed to show that the Port Curtis gold-field could not maintain so many, and in the latter part of the year the majority left for Sydney, where they roamed the streets disappointed and unemployed, until drawn away by the attractions of other rushes.

During this period, in consequence of the impossibility of inducing immigrants to come to the Colony from the United Kingdom as labourers and mechanics, and in view of the great dearth of labour in all the ordinary occupations of life, there was a considerable advocacy for the importation of a useful class of foreigners, particularly Germans, and it was asserted that any number of men from Germany could be persuaded to emigrate from their native land under engagement to refund all the expenses of their passage out. Many, in fact, were so imported, under two years' indentures, at £20 per year, binding themselves to refund £18, the cost of the passage, out of their total earnings. However, systematic emigration to New South Wales from a European country other than the United Kingdom was never carried into effect on any comprehensive scale. It is interesting to note that, in order to facilitate the construction of a railway, the Government consented, in the year 1852, to allow 500 railroad labourers to be brought out at the expense of the immigration fund.

The rates of remuneration for ordinary labour were on the increase in each of the Colonies, and many branches of industry were coming to a standstill for lack of men to carry them on. In Adelaide, for instance, wages were not only daily advancing, but settlers were glad to hire the aborigines of the Colony to gather in their crops. In the sister Colony of Victoria, carpenters, wheelwrights, and bricklayers received, in 1853, 15s. per day, with board and lodging; carpenters, in town, without board and lodging, 28s. per day, and in the country 22s. 6d.; masons, in town, without board and lodging, 26s. 9d. per day, and in the country 25s.; bricklayers, in town and in country, without board and lodging, 25s. per day; and smiths and wheelwrights, in town and in country, without board and lodging, 22s. 6d. per day. In 1854 the rates of wages ruling were quoted as follow:—Smiths, in country, 20s. per day; masons, in country, 22s. 6d.; wheelwrights, in country, 24s., and in town, 30s.; carpenters, in country, 23s., and in town, 25s; and bricklayers, in country, 25s., and in town 30s., without board and lodging in each case. But in Victoria wages were much higher than in the parent Colony, in

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consequence of the continuance of the mining boom and the absorption of nearly all enterprise and all available labour in the one direction of gold-getting.

The following table shows the ruling rates of wages in New South Wales during the period, taking only the most prominent trades. To illustrate the vast change which a few years made, the rates for 1851 are also given :—

Trade or Calling.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.
Males, per day, without board and lodging.								
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
Bricklayers	6 0	9 0	15 6	25 to 30	18 to 25	16 to 18	12 to 16	10/6 to 11/6
Blacksmiths	6 8	9 0	12 9	20 to 25	14 to 16	8 to 13	10 to 14	10/6
Carpenters	6 5	9 0	12 6	15 to 20	12 to 15	12 to 15	10 to 12	10 to 11
Coopers	....	....	....	15 to 20	10 to 12	12 to 14	12 to 14	.....
Cabinetmakers	....	....	....	15 to 20	12 to 15	12 to 15	12 to 14	.....
Farriers	....	....	....	12 to 15	10 to 12	9 to 12	10 to 12	.....
Plumbers and glaziers	....	....	....	16 to 20	12 to 15	12 to 15	12 to 15	.....
Joiners	....	....	....	17 to 20	12 to 15	12 to 14	12 to 15	.....
Ironfounders	....	....	....	16 to 20	14 to 16	12 to 14	11 to 13	.....
Locksmiths	....	....	....	18 to 22	16 to 18	12 to 15	10 to 13	.....
Quarrymen	....	....	....	18 to 21	16 to 18	12/6 to 15	14 to 16	.....
Shoemakers	....	....	....	....	14 to 22	12 to 14	10 to 12	.....
Wheelwrights	6 4	9 0	15 0	18 to 20	14 to 16	12 to 14	12 to 14	10 to 11
Plasterers	. ..	....	16 0	25 to 30	14 to 16	13 to 17	13 to 15	.....
Painters	....	....	....	13 to 16/8	13 to 14	10 to 12	8 to 12	.....
Stonemasons	7 8	9 0	16 0	25 to 30	....	12/6 to 15	13 to 15	10/6 to 11
Females, per annum, with board and lodging.								
	£ £	£ £	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cooks	16 to 25	18 to 25	24	28	28	25	28	26
Housemaids	14 to 18	14 to 18	17	22	22	21	17	23
Laundresses	7 to 12	15 to 18	20	28	28	24	23	26
Nursemaids	9 to 15	16 to 18	17	18	18	18	18	19
General servants	14 to 18	16 to 18	18	28	23	22	23	25
Farm-house servants	13	14	15	25	22	20	19	25
Dairy-women	13	14	15	25	22	20	19	25

The prices of all sorts of provisions and of all articles of clothing were, during this golden era, largely increased; indeed, there was hardly a commodity in the market, whether an article of use or of luxury, the price of which might not be described as "fancy." In 1853 bread sold at from 3½d. to 4d. per lb., but certain lines of provisions were fairly reasonable; for instance, tea was quoted at 1s. 4d. per lb., sugar at 3½d., fresh meat at 3d., butter at 1s. 3d., potatoes at 6s. per cwt., brandy at 23s. per gallon, and imported beer at 5s. per gallon; flour, however, was quoted at 3d. per lb., the price per ton ranging between £20 and £27.

House-rent rose, of course, with the influx of population, the number of persons requiring residential accommodation being so much in excess of habitable dwellings that the Census of 1856 enumerates no fewer than 709 houses as being in occupation although still in the hands of the builder. As illustrative of the exigencies of the time in this particular, it is interesting to note that of 39,807 dwellings, 1,709 were

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tents, 31 were drays, and 64 were ships used as residences. Of the total number of habitations in the Colony, 23,790 were built of wood, and of such inferior materials as bark, slabs, wattle and dab, and the like, and 225 of iron; while more than 32 per cent. of the dwellings were roofed with bark or thatch.

The eight or nine years characterised by the rage of the gold fever exercised a very great economic effect on the condition of the working classes, for had there been no discovery of gold it is not improbable that, with respect to both the standard of living and the remuneration of labour, the conditions existing prior to 1850 would have long remained without any great change for the better. In those days the standard of labour in England was the practical test of the condition of the working classes in Australia, who were thought well off simply because their earnings enabled them to enjoy comforts beyond the reach of their fellows in the Old World. Since the gold era this has been changed, and the standard now made for themselves by Australian workers has no reference to that of any other country. The attractions of the gold-fields had also a marked subsequent effect upon industries of an absolutely different character. Many men, of all sorts of trades and professions, who were drawn to these shores by the prospect of acquiring enough of the precious metal to ensure their independence, remained in the country, and pursued less exciting and less precarious callings, while gold-miners themselves in many cases ceased the exploitation of the mineral which was to have made them rich, and turned their attention to the winning of silver, copper, tin, coal, and other minerals.

During the whole of this period considerable activity was shown in testing the navigable waters of the Colony, and repeated efforts were made to open up communication by way of the rivers Murray and Darling, which, of course, had a corresponding influence on the great pastoral industry of the Colony by affording means of cheap transit for the leading staple of the interior. In 1853, W. R. Randall, in his small steamer, the Mary Anne, was the first to proceed up the Murray, and eventually he reached Maiden's Punt, as the crossing from Echuca to Moama was then named. In the same year Captain Cadell proceeded in a steamer up the Murray to near Albury "with the greatest ease and success." This voyage attracted marked attention, and was the cause of the inauguration of regular steam-service on the river. Captains Cadell, Johnson, and Robertson, and Mr. Randall, subsequently followed up the original essays in the direction of inland river navigation by steaming up the courses of the Murrumbidgee, the Darling, the Barwon, and the Edwards, thus making accessible to population, and opening up to the wool-growing industry, an enormous expanse of territory. In the north, A. C. Gregory (in search of Leichhardt), Dalrymple, and other explorers, were successively unlocking to the squatters, who followed closely in their wake, the broad areas

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of pasturage, whose almost immediate occupation advanced the northern congeries of squatting localities, known as the Moreton Bay District, in rapid strides to the dignity of the Colony of Queensland. It is noteworthy, and distinctly characteristic of the period, that by the year 1854 the purchase of land for agricultural purposes had almost ceased, territory being taken up instead in large tracts by pastoral lessees for grazing purposes.

The development of the pastoral industry made further and further migrations inland a matter of necessity. In the first years of Australian history the coastal belt only was available, but with the crossing of the Blue Mountains, in 1813, a new horizon stretched before the pastoral imagination, and with each successive discovery by Oxley or Cunningham or Mitchell or Hume plain was added to plain of pasture, and the paths of the explorers were dotted with chains of squattages. In the earliest years of pastoral settlement it was customary for stock-breeders to drive their herds to the nearest unoccupied good country when they increased beyond the grazing capabilities of their pasturages. In this manner the river-courses in the western districts became stocked, and the country bordering them occupied. The practice came into vogue when cattle were decreasing in value, and when, therefore, it was absolutely necessary to breed them at the least expense. These herds were, however, inferior in strain; they frequently became wild and unmanageable, and it was only with the influx of population during the gold fever days, when high prices were paid for meat, that they acquired any value. The cattle, nevertheless, showed that the interior country was good for stock-grazing, and proved that land which had hitherto been regarded as a desert was very fattening pasture—for they had discovered "salt-bush," a fodder plant which retains its vitality when other kinds of herbage have long withered away. The grazing value of the river country, or Riverina, has never since been challenged.

There were three great waves of settlement which swept over Australia. The first, to which allusion has already been made, flowed over the inland plains between the Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia. The second rolled further inland, and beyond the occupied country, as far as the central basin of the continent. The third went northward to the downs of Queensland. The first migration of stock arose from the demands for meat made by the gold-diggers. The success of this pioneer movement inspired the second experiment, which was prompted by the demand for wool. The third essay in pastoral settlement was occasioned by the maintained and increasing value of all squatting property, particularly of pastures. Riverina was rapidly taken up along the river courses, and became the grazing-ground for stock fattening for the Victorian meat market; and the success attending its occupation dispelled all the early notions respecting its desert-like character and its incapability of carrying stock. The growth of the pastoral industry has already been adverted to, and

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also the influence that the gold discoveries had upon it—on the one hand retarding its development by depriving it of labour, and on the other, encouraging it by the creation of a demand for carcase meat. In 1851 the number of sheep in the Colony was estimated at about 7,000,000, and in 1861, just after the subsidence of the wild days of speculative excitement, 6,000,000; hence the dearth and costliness of labour, together with the demand for meat, appear to have been responsible for the decrease of the flocks to the extent of 1,000,000 head during the decade. The subjoined statement shows the number of sheep in the Colony at each year of the period, together with the value of the exports of wool and of tallow and lard :—

Year.	Sheep.	Exports of—	
		Wool.	Tallow and Lard.
	No.	£	£
1852	7,707,917	676,815	146,811
1853	7,929,708	999,896	134,708
1854	8,144,119	1;181,956	164,256
1855	8,602,499	1,078,017	123,255
1856	7,736,323	1,303,070	137,202
1857	8,139,162	1,275,067	82,134
1858	7,581,762	1,126,486	53,186

Horses and horned cattle, on the contrary, increased, although there was a falling off in the latter in 1858. The number of pigs in the Colony gradually decreased to the year 1854; in 1855 they added nearly 5,000 to their number; in 1856, nearly 38,000; and in 1857, over 3,000; but they declined in 1858 by over 16,000. The following are the stock returns for the period :—

Year.	Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Pigs.
	No.	No.	No.
1852	123,404	1,495,984	78,559
1853	139,765	1,552,285	71,395
1854	148,851	1,576,750	63,255
1855	158,159	1,858,407	68,091
1856	168,929	2,023,418	105,998
1857	180,053	2,148,664	109,166
1858	200,713	2,110,604	92,843

Agriculture was greatly neglected during the days of the gold fever, and the sales of land realised far from what might have been

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expected from the increasing influx of population. In 1840 there were 126,116 acres under cultivation, and the land revenue for the year was £316,626. In 1854, fourteen years afterwards, the number of acres under crop was 131,857, and the revenue from land sales, £319,533. The following statement shows the area under cultivation for each year of the period, together with the revenue derived from the sale of the Colony's Crown lands:—

Year.	Area under cultivation.	Revenue from land sales.
	acres.	£
1852	131,730	55,808
1853	139,014	211,035
1854	131,857	319,533
1855	171,100	270,636
1856	186,034	245,555
1857	184,514	210,333
1858	223,296	240,633

There were, in 1846, 183,360 acres under cultivation, and 146,165 acres in 1843. A comparison between these years and the years quoted in the foregoing table will show how almost to a standstill had the agricultural interest been brought during the period of the exploitation of the gold-fields. But the excitement caused by the pursuit of the precious metal not only had its temporary effect upon the pastoral and agricultural development of the Colony; it retarded also the growth of its manufacturing industries, though it doubtless attracted hither the population to whom these industries owed their subsequent revival, and who supplied labour to operate them. In the following table the mills and factories, together with the population of the Colony, are given for each year of the period, with a similar series of facts for the preceding seven years:—

Year.	Population.	Mills and manufacturing establishments.	Year.	Population.	Mills and manufacturing establishments.
1845	181,556	266	1852	208,254	286
1846	196,704	262	1853	231,088	284
1847	205,009	266	1854	251,315	286
1848	220,474	305	1855	277,579	371
1849	246,299	354	1856	286,873	432
1850	265,503	388	1857	305,487	418
1851	*197,168	291	1858	342,062	464

* Decrease owing to severance of Port Phillip District.

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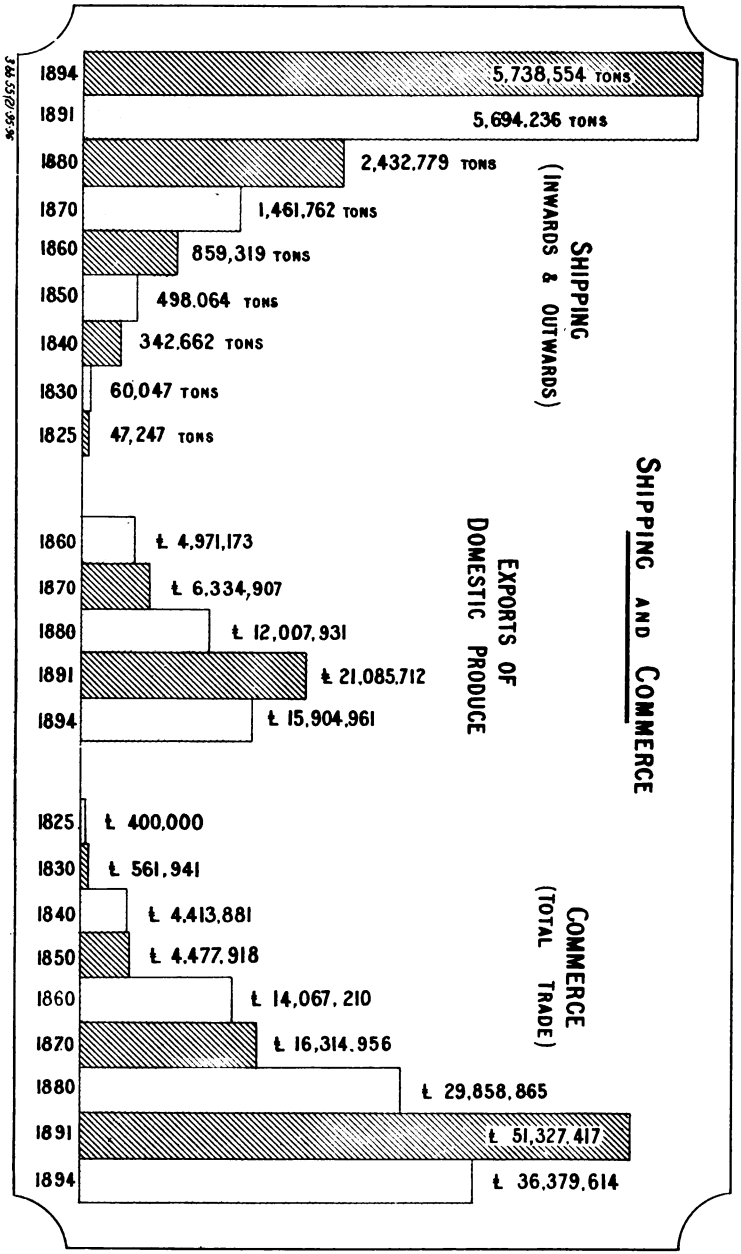

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With steam communication with other parts of the world, and the introduction into Australia of the railway system, new markets were being created for the trade in coal, although it was not before the subsidence of the gold fever that they began to be availed of. The quantity of coal raised in 1852 was 67,404 tons, and in 1858 over three times as much, viz., 216,397 tons. In 1850 and 1851 the price of coal ranged from 9s. to 10s. per ton; in 1852 it had risen to over 80s. per ton, although it did not remain for an extended period at this high figure. The quantity and value of the production of this mineral during the period under review were as follow:—

Year.	Quantity raised.	Average price per ton.		Approximate total value.
	tons.	s.	d.	£
1852	67,404	10	11	36,885
1853	96,809	16	2	78,059
1854	116,642	20	6	119,380
1855	137,076	13	0	89,082
1856	189,960	12	5	117,906
1857	210,434	14	1	148,158
1858	216,397	15	0	162,162

Up to the year 1852 the commerce of New South Wales, as shown in the figures representing the imports, was erratic in an especial degree, but with the year in question came a marked expansion in the Colony's trade, and the volume of imports increased in a single year from about two to more than six and a quarter millions, although the returns for the next three years would appear to indicate that the imports of 1853 were due rather to speculative enterprise than to the necessities of commerce. In the following table are given the imports and exports of New South Wales from 1851 to 1858, the former year being included for purpose of comparison:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1851	1,563,931	1,796,912
1852	1,900,436	4,604,034
1853	6,342,397	4,523,346
1854	5,981,063	4,050,126
1855	4,668,519	2,884,130
1856	5,460,971	3,430,880
1857	6,729,408	4,011,952
1858	6,059,366	4,186,277

The imports comprised mainly manufactured goods and articles of luxury, while the exports consisted almost exclusively of raw material.

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The product of the southern fisheries had greatly fallen off by the beginning of the period, and the export of oil, etc., averaged for five years between £25,000 and £30,000 per annum. In 1858 the exports of the fisheries had fallen to £1,450; in 1859 to £532; and in 1860 to £136. With the last-named year, the industry, round which clusters so many historical associations, and which is so peculiarly reminiscent of the early days of Australian settlement, practically disappears, although a few trifling essays have, from time to time, been made to revive it in southern waters, and small quantities of oil have been exported from Sydney.

The table last given demonstrates that from the year 1852 to 1858 the excess of imports over exports was no less than £9,451,415, which shows that British capital was being attracted to the Colony, though nothing like to the extent that it was being showered upon the sister-colony of Victoria. The growth of the exports after 1851 was due, of course, to the quantity of gold sent away during the first years of the diggings, though the industry rapidly declined, not, however, from the exhaustion of the fields, but from the fact that the rapid discoveries of the precious metal made in Victoria afforded a more immediate inducement to exploitation. The subjoined table shows the value of the gold exported from the two Colonies up to 1858:—

Year.	New South Wales.	Victoria.
	£	£
1851	468,336	438,777
1852	2,660,946	8,760,579
1853	1,781,172	11,090,643
1854	773,209	9,214,093
1855	654,594	11,070,270
1856	689,174	11,943,458
1857	674,477	10,987,591
1858	1,104,175	10,107,836

The foregoing table explains the tremendous attraction which the southern Colony possessed for the population of the Australasian group. Considering also that the imports into Victoria during 1854 were no less than £17,659,051, it is apparent that for a period the parent Colony was quite eclipsed by the growth of its own off-shoot, and that the commerce of the South Pacific gravitated to Melbourne. During a single month as many as 152 ships arrived in Port Phillip, conveying thither 12,000 immigrants. The parent Colony experienced a diminution of population owing to the attractions of Victoria, but the drain was only temporary, as the population of New South Wales increased from 208,254 in 1852 to 342,062 in 1858, which shows, from the entire epoch, a gain of 133,808, or a rate of increase of upwards of 64 per cent. for a space of six years.

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It was not until 1846 that the people of Sydney began to awaken to the advantages of railroad communication, and moot the desirability of connecting the metropolis with the inland city of Goulburn; and not until two years afterwards that a company was formed for the purpose of constructing a line to Parramatta and Liverpool, with subsequent possible extensions. In 1850 the first sod of the first railway constructed in Australia was turned. In 1853 a second company was formed, with the object of constructing a railway from Newcastle to Maitland; but both companies came to grief, and the Government was obliged to take the projects over. On the 26th September, 1855, the line from Sydney to Parramatta was declared open to public traffic, and thus was inaugurated the railway system, which has had in more recent times so great an influence upon the commercial development of the Colony. For many years, however, railway construction languished, the enthusiasm of its advocates being doubtless considerably damped by the reflection that the short line from Sydney to Parramatta, only 14 miles in length, cost about £700,000, or £50,000 a mile—six times as much as the original promoters estimated would be required to build the line all the way from Sydney to Goulburn, a distance of 134 miles.

Reference has already been made to the opening up of steam communication with England in 1852, during which year the Chusan, the Australia, and the Great Britain—the last-named the largest ship afloat at that time—visited Port Jackson. In 1856 a steam service, of anything but a satisfactory character, was carried on by the Peninsular and Oriental Company and the Royal Mail Company; but the days of efficient ocean communication were still to be realised. These early essays, however, had no small effect in stimulating the colonists to agitate for something better, and proposals were made for the establishment of a line of mail-packets *via* Panama, but they did not bear fruit until the year 1866.

Sixth Industrial Period, 1859–1862.

The years extending from 1859 to 1862 may be regarded as forming the sixth period in the Colony's industrial history. During the whole of this time the country was undergoing the process of recovery from days of excitement and dreams of chance, when the wealthy speculator of one moment became the beggared adventurer of the next, and the outcast of many years the millionaire of as many months. The community appeared to be vaguely restless, as though beginning to realise that the golden era of their experience was rapidly drifting into a prosaic period of sterner conditions, and slower and more arduous growth.

Wages, as recorded for the period, may be regarded as merely nominal, as employment was difficult to obtain, and speculation was

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quiescent. The following are given as the rate in the prominent trades and callings :—

Trade or Calling.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.
Males, per day, without board and lodging.				
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Carpenters	9 6	10 6	10 0	10 0
Blacksmiths	9 6	10 6	10 0	10 0
Wheelwrights	9 6	10 0	10 6	10 6
Bricklayers	10 6	10 6	11 0	13 0
Masons	9 9	11 6	11 9	10 0
Males, per annum, with board and lodging.				
	£	£	£	£
Farm Labourers	30 to 40	30 to 40	30 to 40	30 to 40
Shepherds	30 to 35	30 to 35	30 to 35	35
Females, per annum, with board and lodging.				
Cooks	25 to 30	25 to 30	25 to 30	26 to 40
Housemaids	16 to 18	16 to 25	20 to 25	20 to 26
Laundresses	20 to 25	25 to 30	25 to 30	30 to 40
Nursemaids	15 to 18	15 to 20	15 to 20	15 to 25
General House Servants	20 to 25	18 to 25	20 to 25	25
Farm Servants and Dairy-women	15 to 20	18 to 25	20 to 25	22

The average prices of some of the principal articles of consumption for the years 1860, 1861, and 1862, are quoted as follow :—

Article of Consumption.	1860.	1861.	1862.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Wheat, per bushel	8 0	6 6	7 0
Bread, 1st quality, per lb.	0 3½	0 4	0 2½
Flour, ,, per lb.	0 3½	0 3	0 3
Rice, per lb.	0 5	0 4	2d. to 4d.
Oatmeal, per lb.	0 6	0 6	0 5
Tea, per lb.	2 3	2 4	1/6 to 2/6
Coffee, per lb.	1 6	1 6	1/4 to 1/6
Meat, fresh, per lb.	0 4	0 3	0 4
Butter, fresh, per lb.	1 6	1 8	2 3
Cheese, English, per lb.	1 6	1 7	1 6
Potatoes, per cwt.	7 6	7 3	8 0

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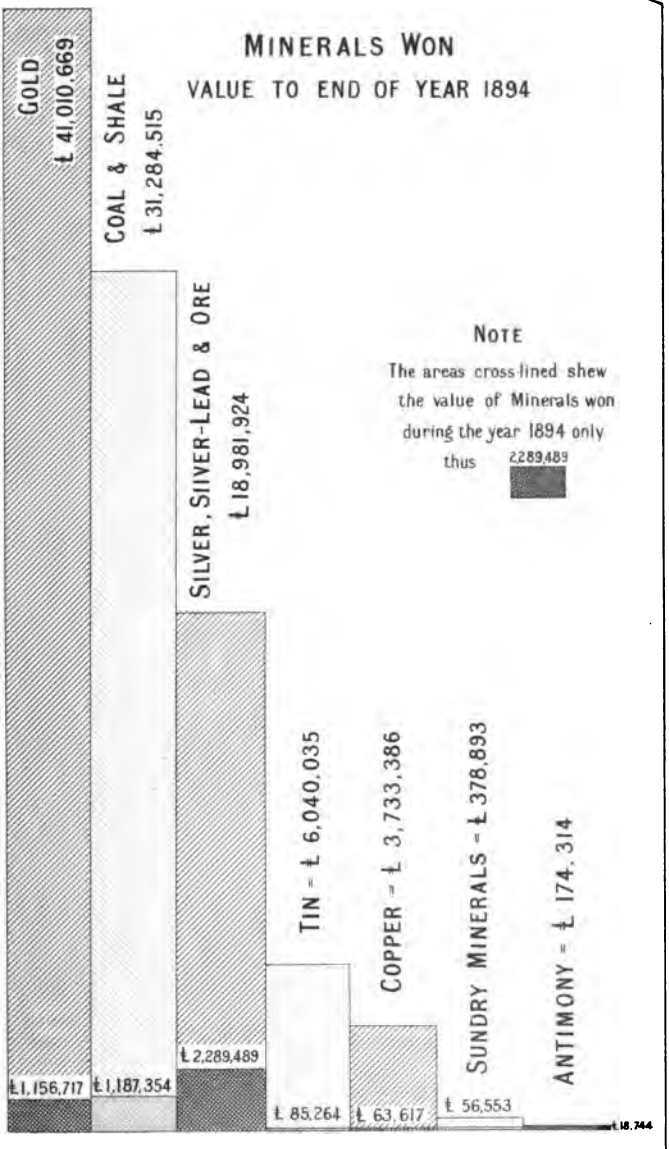

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At the close of the preceding industrial period there were in the Colony 7,581,762 sheep; but in 1859 the number had declined to 5,162,671, a decrease due mainly to the severance of Queensland from the mother Colony. In the following statement are given the numbers of sheep and other stock in New South Wales during each year of the period, together with the value of wool and of tallow and lard exported at the time:—

Year.	Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Export of Wool.	Export of Tallow and Lard.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	£	£
1859	214,684	2,190,976	119,701	5,162,671	1,458,005	37,275
1860	251,497	2,408,586	180,662	6,119,163	1,454,289	28,794
1861	233,220	2,271,923	146,091	5,615,054	1,768,978	60,816
1862	273,389	2,620,383	125,541	6,145,651	1,801,186	104,030

Renewed attention was bestowed upon agriculture, which had long remained neglected. The area of land devoted to crops, which was 247,542 acres in 1859, had in 1862 increased to 302,138 acres.

The manufacturing industry also made progress, and while in 1860 the factories and works in the Colony numbered 567, in 1861 the number was 601, and in the following year 645.

During the period gold-mining was actively prosecuted, and the yield for the year 1862 was better than that of any year since 1852. Coal was gradually growing into a staple commodity, and in 1862 the value of the export reached nearly a quarter of a million of money. The following statement shows the value of gold and of coal produced during each year of the period:—

Year.	Production of Gold.	Production of Coal.
	£	£
1859	1,259,127	204,371
1860	1,465,373	226,493
1861	1,806,171	218,820
1862	2,467,780	305,234

The epoch closed, for the majority of the community, with a certain measure of hopefulness, induced by the introduction of a Parliamentary enactment under the provisions of which land was obtainable by free selection before survey. Sir John Robertson's Land Act—the measure referred to—came into operation in 1861, and the new principle it initiated had lasting, if not immediately apparent, effect on the condition of the working classes, giving them opportunities for employment

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not previously open to them. The main principle of the measure, which did so much to assist recovery from the dead level of conditions that prevailed at the time, is embodied in the following clause :—"Any person may, upon any Land Office day, tender to the Land Agent for the district a written application for the conditional purchase of any such lands, not less than 40 acres nor more than 320 acres, at the price of 20s. per acre, and may pay to such Land Agent a deposit of 25 per centum of the purchase-money thereof. And, if no other application and deposit for the same land be tendered at the same time, such person shall be declared the conditional purchaser thereof at the price aforesaid."

The free selector of any portion of Crown lands had three years' credit for the payment of the remainder of his purchase-money. Should he, after that time, be unable or disinclined to make payment, liberty was granted him to defer instalments for an indefinite period on paying 5 per cent. interest per annum on the principal amount remaining unpaid. It was also provided that the purchaser of any area of land from 40 to 320 acres should be entitled to three times the extent of his purchase for grazing ground, so long as it should not be claimed by any other free selector. Certain conditions were imposed regarding residence, which came to be more observed in the breach than in the performance.

Seventh Industrial Period, 1863–1872.

The seventh period in the industrial history of the Colony, extending from the year 1863 to that of 1872, was one when the El Dorado dreams of the fifties had faded from men's minds, and when the social and industrial system now existing was evolved. Few incidents calling for special comment marked the history of this epoch, during which the most important variations in the conditions of labour arose from adverse seasons, vast areas of the Colony having been visited by alternate droughts and floods. The distress and acute suffering which resulted from these truly remarkable vicissitudes of climate were very great, and the destruction of property was in many instances accompanied by loss of life. The Colony was not inexperienced either in the matter of floods or of droughts, but the record of such disasters during this period was exceptional.

The year 1862 had been ushered in with a drought, but in February and March heavy rains fell in the west, the south, and the south-west. Floods ensued in those districts, but a long period of dry weather immediately followed. In the month of September the drought was so severe that the crops began to perish, and the farmers were compelled to cut young green yields in order to supply fodder to the cattle. Bush fires raged in many districts. In February, 1863, the drought broke up, and in consequence of heavy rains the Hawkesbury rose 27 feet above its average height, and floods everywhere prevailed from Rock-

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hampton in the north to Gippsland in the south. To the floods again succeeded dry weather, which marked the closing months of the year. The year 1864 opened no more auspiciously. The summer proved particularly dry; farmers petitioned Government to be released from claims for seed-wheat advanced during the previous year; crops in many parts of the interior were totally destroyed by rust and drought, and in the north by continued rain—for floods were again submerging many districts of the Colony—and efforts were being made in the metropolis to provide accommodation for the houseless poor. The floods, which covered a period of six months, extending from February to July, caused rivers to overflow their banks, swept bridges away, and destroyed a vast amount of property. The year 1865 was normal as regards the seasons, but unsettled conditions again prevailed in 1867. In this year the floods were attended by loss of life as well as by destruction of property; lines of railway were closed in consequence of the heavy rains, and public works in some districts were greatly damaged. The distress of the settlers who had been "washed out" called so loudly for relief that public meetings were held for the purpose of raising subscriptions; the Colonial Secretary and others hastened to the inundated districts with succour, and the butchers and bakers of Sydney sent meat and bread to those who had been rendered destitute. Dry weather supervened from October, 1867, to January, 1868, followed by heavy rains which inundated the valleys of the Hawkesbury and the Hunter. The year 1869 began with a severe drought, and the 13th February was proclaimed by the Government a day of humiliation and prayer for rain. The pastoral industry was severely affected, and the whole country suffered. In 1870 floods prevailed throughout the Colony; traffic was stopped, and much property destroyed. A flood relief committee was formed, and, notwithstanding the presence of many unemployed in Sydney, great efforts were made to send succour to the "washed out" settlers. The month of November in this year was specially fraught with disaster from floods. The calendar was simply a record of inundations which were general throughout the Colony. About the beginning of the second quarter of the following year, damaging rains again visited the coast. Floods were reported from Penrith and Windsor, and in April and May the Hunter and most of the other coastal rivers overflowed their banks. The year 1872 was one of less tense physical conditions.

The alternations of inundation and drought, which marked this period perhaps more than any other in the history of the Colony, had a most baneful effect upon industry. Money was very dear; the finances of the Colony were in anything but a satisfactory condition, and Treasurer after Treasurer made ineffectual attempts to make both ends meet. The bad seasons, also, had their effect in aggravating the general feeling of depression by discouraging the flow of capital to the soil. During the keen distress in 1866 the unemployed in Sydney were sorely pressed, and

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to afford relief a number were sent to Haslem's Creek to clear an area of land for the purposes of a cemetery. At the close of the year, just after the report of a Select Committee on the condition of the unemployed had been published, a rush broke out in the Weddin Mountains, and temporarily drew a great number of the workless away from the city. Towards the end of the period great depression was experienced in commercial circles; little interprise was manifested in the building trades, and property changed hands at a depreciation in value of about 50 per cent. on the original cost.

The early years of this period were characterised by a large influx of Chinese, to such a great extent that at one time they formed nearly 4 per cent. of the total population, and their presence in New South Wales was for long an important factor in democratic and industrial legislation. With the development of the Colony, and the increasing richness of the finds of the precious metal, these aliens poured into the country in ever-increasing volume. In 1856 they numbered only 1,806; five years thereafter they had risen in number to 12,988, or 3·7 per cent. of the population. In 1861 matters with regard to Chinese immigration reached a crisis. The gold-field opened up at Burrangong proved extraordinarily rich; a great rush set in to that place, and large crowds of Chinese flocked to the diggings there. The miners received this influx of Asiatic fossickers with very bad grace, and convened a public meeting for the purpose of deciding whether "Burrangong was a European or a Chinese territory." They likewise addressed a petition to the Assembly complaining of the swamping of the field by thousands of Chinese. This agitation against the alien miners resulted in continuous riotings; the unfortunate foreigners were ejected from their claims, their tents were burned, and they were generally ill-used. The Government, determined to uphold order at any cost, despatched to the scene of the riots, a place called Lambing Flat, a mixed force of artillerymen, with two 12-lb. field-pieces, some men of the 12th Regiment, and some members of the mounted police force. The Premier, Mr. Charles Cowper, also visited the field and addressed a monster meeting of the miners, sympathising with their grievances, but informing them that no redress could be obtained until riot and confusion had entirely ceased. When the Premier had returned to Sydney the excitement rapidly ceased; a new rush to a locality named Tipperary Gully lured away 6,000 miners from the scene of their former disputes, and the Chinese departed to other fields. Thus ended the first labour conflict between the Europeans and the Chinese, who from that date onward to the Prohibition Act of 1888 became a growing menace to the character of the settlement of the Australian colonies.

There was a marked decline in the rates of wages during the period, particularly so with regard to those paid to mechanics. A return dated 1864 records the average daily wages of carpenters as ranging from 8s. to 9s. in town, without board and lodging; of smiths, wheelwrights,

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and bricklayers, from 9s. to 10s.; and of masons, 10s. In the country, and inclusive of board and lodging, the wages of carpenters, smiths, and wheelwrights were quoted at from £50 to £80 per annum, and of bricklayers and masons from £80 to £100; farm labourers, from £28 to £30; shepherds, from £30 to £35; female cooks and laundresses, from £26 to £30; housemaids, from £20 to £26; nursemaids, from £15 to £26; general house servants, from £20 to £30; and farm-house servants and dairy-women from £18 to £26. In 1865 female cooks received up to £36 per annum, with board and lodging; and general house servants, from £20 to £26. This showed a decline on the rates of wages ruling in 1863, when mechanics received from 9s. to 10s. per day, and from £65 to £100 per annum; and farm labourers and shepherds from £30 to £35. The wages of female servants were not, however, very considerably affected. In 1871, workmen in the metropolis convened meetings to protest against the reduction of wages; nevertheless, there were numbers who could not obtain employment. The wages of carpenters, smiths, and wheelwrights were then quoted as ranging from 8s. to 9s. per day, and from £50 to £70 per annum; of bricklayers, from 8s. to 10s. per day, and from £60 to £80 per annum; and of masons, from 8s. to 9s. per day, and from £60 to £80 per annum. The wages of farm-labourers were quoted as ranging from £26 to £30; shepherds, from £26 to £35; female cooks, at £30; housemaids, from £20 to £26; laundresses, from £26 to £30; nursemaids from £13 to £25; and general house servants and dairy-women from £20 to £26. The average wages per day or per week, for each year during the period, were as follow:—

Trade or Calling.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.
Males, per day, without board and lodging.									
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Carpenters	9 0	8 6	8 6	8 6	8 6	8 6	8 0	8 6	8 6
Blacksmiths	9 6	9 6	9 6	9 6	9 6	9 6	9 6	10 0	8 6
Wheelwrights	9 6	9 6	9 6	9 6	9 6	9 6	8 6	8 3	8 6
Bricklayers	10 0	9 6	9 6	9 6	9 6	9 6	8 6	10 6	9 0
Masons	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	8 6	9 6	8 6
Males, per week, with board and lodging.									
Farm labourers	13 0	11 6	11 6	11 6	11 6	11 6	12 3	12 9	10 9
Shepherds	13 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	13 3	12 9	11 9
Females, per week, with board and lodging.									
Cooks	11 0	11 0	12 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	11 3	10 9	11 6
Housemaids	9 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	9 0	9 0	9 0
Laundresses	11 0	11 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	10 9	10 9	10 9
Nursemaids	8 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0
General servants	10 0	10 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	11 0	10 0	10 9	9 0
Farm-house servants and dairy-women	8 6	8 6	8 6	9 0	9 0	10 0	9 0	9 0	9 0

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In considering the table just given regard must be paid to the fact that although there was a considerable decline in the daily wage received by skilled mechanics, the prices of commodities in general use also steadily fell. The following table gives quotations for some of the principal articles of consumption for a portion of the period :—

Article of consumption.	1863.		1864.		1865.		1866.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat, per bushel	6	6	12	0	8	0	6	6
Bread, 1st quality, per lb.	0	2½	0	3	0	4	0	4
Flour, ,, per lb.	0	2	0	3	0	3	0	3
Rice, per lb.	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	4
Oatmeal, per lb.	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	4
Tea, per lb.	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	6
Coffee, per lb.	1	4	1	4	1	4	1	4
Meat, fresh, per lb.	0	4½	0	4	0	3	0	3
Butter, fresh, per lb.	1	6	1	6	1	9	1	3
Cheese, English, per lb.	1	6	1	6	1	6	1	6
Potatoes, per cwt.	7	0	5	0	8	0	6	0

The stoppage of immigration reduced the demand for residential accommodation, and rents came down to about half the rates ruling ten years before. Capitalists preferred to place their money on deposit in the banks, where they obtained high rates of interest, to investing it in building properties.

In March, 1863, an Intercolonial Conference was held in Melbourne, at which the colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania were represented. The questions discussed related to the tariff and kindred matters; intercolonial customs duties, and their distribution; transportation from the United Kingdom to the Australian possessions; a permanent immigration fund, to be provided under Act of Parliament by each Colony, upon an equitable basis; improvement of internal rivers in Australia for purposes of navigation and irrigation; coast lighthouses, and other maritime questions affecting the shipping interest; fortnightly ocean postal communication; Anglo-Australian and China telegraph; legal questions, including the law of bankruptcy, of patents, of joint stock companies, of probates and letters of administration, and a court of appeal for the Australian Colonies; and a uniform system of weights and measures. These questions subsequently engaged the attention of the various Australian Parliaments, and resulted in the carrying into effect of much useful and needed legislation.

At the beginning of the period a Select Committee was appointed to inquire into and report upon the state of the manufacturing and agricultural industries. On the 12th December, 1862, this Committee brought up a report which stated that from the evidence taken it was

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shown that manufactures had not increased during twenty years; that many which had flourished in the past were not in existence; and that in consequence thousands of youths were wandering about the streets in a state of vagrancy, instead of learning some useful trade. This statement is, however, too sweeping to be accepted literally, and is not supported by any evidence of value.

In the early part of the period the banks required as much money as they could obtain, and were competing for it in the local market, giving for twelve months' deposits 6 and 6½ per cent. interest. Besides the banks, private companies were asking for money, for which they offered 7 per cent.; while there was a large amount of New Zealand Government debentures bearing 8 per cent. interest thrown on the market.

Trouble was experienced with the flocks and herds in 1862 and in the following year. Sheep were infected with catarrh and scab; pleuro-pneumonia was reported to have attacked the cattle, and pleurisy made its appearance among the horses.

Governor Young's term of office, which extended from 1861 to 1867, was marked by a certain amount of agitation in regard to railway matters, but railway construction proceeded slowly, the total mileage open for traffic in 1866 being only 143. Several lines were, however, in course of construction, and at the end of 1871 the mileage had increased to 358. In that year the lines open in Victoria measured 329 miles, and in all Australia, 1,082 miles.

This was the great bushranging epoch in the Colony's history, which memorises such unworthy names as those of Frank Gardiner, the Clarkes, Dunn, Johnny Gilbert, Ben Hall, Morgan, Power, "Thunderbolt," and O'Malley. The existence of this dangerous bushranging pest was a source of embarrassment to each successive Government, and a standing challenge to every Ministry that accepted office.

It is unnecessary to refer to the mining, agricultural, pastoral, and manufacturing statistics of this period, as they will be found in the special chapters treating of the development of these industries.

Eighth Industrial Period, 1872–1893.

The twenty-two years, 1872–93, forming the eighth industrial period, do not call for such lengthened description as former epochs, seeing that the statistics to be found in various parts of this volume illustrate the details of the progress made. The preceding period closed somewhat tamely. Population was not being attracted to the Colony in any large numbers; land was not being taken up by selectors, nor was there any sustained effort to develop the resources of the Colony. Railway

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construction was almost suspended; the expenditure by the Government on public works, either from revenue or from the proceeds of loans, was small; while little private capital found its way to the country. In 1870 the production of gold fell to the lowest point since its discovery, the total output of the year being £931,016; the condition of agriculture gave evidence of little progress, and the land taken up for settlement showed a total of 423,692 acres, or rather less than the figures for 1862. Under such circumstances the industrial conditions could not be said to be hopeful, but causes were at work which were to affect materially the progress of the country.

The production of gold in 1872 reached the respectable total of £1,643,582, due to the development of the Hill End and Tambaroora Mines. The copper-mines, which had not been worked before to any great extent, were now systematically developed; and in the same year the rich tin deposits of the country received attention. The advantage of the Colony as a place for settlement was recognized, especially by persons in the southern colonies. Purchases of land from the State proceeded on an extensive scale, and with increased land sales came greater attention to primary industries. Agriculture expanded; and cattle-breeding, which had been losing importance since the Land Act of 1861 came into force, received renewed attention. Nor was sheep-breeding neglected, as might have been expected, in favour of the rival industry, for the price of wool was highly satisfactory to the grower, especially during the five years ending with 1875. These combined causes made the outlook very bright at the beginning of the period.

About the year 1872 public attention was awakened to the necessity of pushing on with the construction of railways, roads, and bridges, to open up the interior of the country, and an expansive public works policy, involving the expenditure of large sums of borrowed money, was accordingly initiated. In the year named the expenditure on public works was £560,931; in 1873, £722,252; and during the next twenty years the average yearly expenditure on public works was—

	£
1874–78	1,565,148
1879–83	3,320,986
1884–88	4,114,984
1889–93	2,489,914

During 1872 the hands employed on public works was probably not more than 3,000; in 1874–78 the yearly average fell little short of 8,000; during the next five years (1879–83) the numbers reached 16,600; in 1884–88, 20,500; and in 1889–93, 12,500. These figures are exclusive of persons permanently employed in the public departments and on the railways.

Coincident with the vigorous construction of public works, and chiefly on the part of graziers desirous of protecting themselves from

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the incursions of free selectors, there arose a great demand for land, which was readily responded to by the State, and the public lands were bought up with such eagerness that in the five years from 1872 to 1877 the revenue derived from this source increased from £800,000 to over £3,000,000, and the public exchequer was overflowing. Wages were high, employment steady, provisions cheap, and numbers of men, for the most part young and energetic, were attracted to the Colony by the alluring prospects held out to them, the annual increment to the population being doubled within a few years. To keep pace with the demand for labour the Government maintained a vigorous immigration policy, and in the ten years which closed with 1885 nearly 49,000 persons were assisted to these shores from the United Kingdom, and were readily absorbed in the general population. In all likelihood industrial conditions would have improved during this period without any lavish expenditure by the Government, but what was probable was made certain by the favourable combination of circumstances alluded to.

In the following table of average wages for each year from 1872 to 1886 the quotations are classified as daily or weekly, according to the ordinary modes of payment :—

Trade or Calling.	1872.		1873.		1874.		1875.		1876.		1877.		1878.		1879.	
Males, per day, without board and lodging.																
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Carpenters	9	0	10	0	9	0	9	6	10	0	10	8	10	8	10	8
Blacksmiths	9	0	10	0	11	0	10	3	11	0	11	0	10	0	10	0
Bricklayers	9	6	10	0	11	0	11	0	12	0	11	0	11	0	11	0
Masons	9	6	10	0	11	0	11	0	11	0	11	0	10	6	10	6
Plasterers	10	0	10	0	11	0	11	0	12	0	11	6	11	6	11	6
Painters	9	0	9	0	9	0	9	6	9	6	9	6	9	6	9	6
Boiler-makers	9	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	10	0
Labourers and navvies	7	0	7	0	7	0	7	0	7	0	7	0	7	0	8	0
Brickmakers (at per 1,000)	...		...		...		...		22	6	22	6	23	9	23	9
Males, per week, with board and lodging.																
Farm labourers	14	0	13	0	14	0	15	0	15	0	15	0	15	0	15	0
Shepherds	14	0	14	0	14	0	15	0	15	0	15	0	14	6	14	6
Females, per week, with board and lodging.																
Housemaids	9	0	10	6	10	6	11	0	11	6	11	6	11	6	11	6
Laundresses	10	6	10	6	13	6	14	0	14	6	14	6	14	6	14	6
Nursemaids	7	6	9	0	9	0	10	0	10	6	10	6	10	6	11	6
General servants	10	0	10	6	10	6	12	6	14	0	14	0	14	0	14	0
Cooks	10	6	13	6	13	6	13	6	16	0	16	0	17	6	18	6

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Trade or Calling.	1880.		1881.		1882.		1883.		1884.		1885.		1886.	
Males, per day, without board and lodging.														
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Carpenters	10	0	10	0	11	0	11	0	11	0	11	0	9	0
Blacksmiths	10	0	9	6	10	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	9	6
Bricklayers	11	0	11	0	12	6	12	6	12	6	12	6	11	0
Masons	10	6	10	6	11	6	11	6	11	6	11	6	11	0
Plasterers	11	6	11	6	12	0	12	0	12	0	12	6	11	0
Painters	9	6	9	6	11	0	11	0	11	0	11	0	9	0
Boilermakers	9	6	9	6	9	6	9	6	9	6	9	6	10	0
Labourers and navvies	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0
Brickmakers (at per 1,000)	23	9	23	9	23	9	23	9	23	9	23	9	23	9
Males, per week, with board and lodging.														
Farm labourers	15	0	15	0	17	6	17	6	17	6	17	6	17	6
Shepherds	14	6	14	6	15	0	15	0	15	0	15	0	15	0
Females, per week, with board and lodging.														
Housemaids	11	6	11	6	13	0	13	0	13	0	13	0	13	0
Laundresses	14	6	14	6	17	6	17	6	17	6	17	6	17	6
Nursemaids	11	6	11	6	11	6	11	6	11	6	11	6	11	6
General servants	14	0	14	0	15	0	15	0	15	0	15	0	15	0
Cooks	18	6	18	6	18	6	18	6	18	6	18	6	18	6

An important factor affecting the industrial conditions during the whole period following 1872, which should not be lost sight of, is the importation of private capital. The Colony, during the greater part of its history, has been benefited by the introduction of private capital, and in the years prior to 1870 this importation was chiefly in its most acceptable form, being accompanied by the owners. The amount of private money introduced varied somewhat from year to year, but even as late as 1873 it did not exceed half a million sterling. In 1874 money commenced to flow to the Colony largely for investment purposes, and during the fifteen years which closed with 1890 the extraordinary amount of forty-four millions sterling was received, £6,228,000 coming in 1885, and £5,392,000 in the following year. It can well be imagined that the influx of so large an amount of private money, joined to the large expenditure by the State, was felt in every branch of industry. As already pointed out, wages rose 25 per cent. in skilled trades, and from 40 to 50 per cent. in unskilled trades, and in some years there was not a man in the Colony willing to work who was unemployed. The outlay on public works reached a maximum in 1885, when the expenditure was £5,242,807, but in 1888 it fell to £2,106,027. This meant the throwing out of employment of 15,000 men, and to mitigate the distress consequent on the inability of the community to absorb so

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much labour suddenly thrust upon it, the Government started relief works, and an expenditure of £387,000 was incurred upon them before they were abandoned.

It will be observed, from the narrative just given, that the largest expenditure by the State occurred in 1885, the same year as that in which the largest amount of private money was brought to New South Wales. From 1885 the import of capital fell off year by year until 1893, when it practically ceased, so that the withdrawal of the State from the labour market was not mitigated by the support given by private capital. The following is a statement of the average import of private capital per annum in five-year periods, commencing with 1874 :—

	£
1874–78	1,726,100
1879–83	1,997,200
1884–88	4,039,400
1889–93	1,869,000

The three last years of the fourth period showed—

1891	1,338,000
1892	1,667,000
1893	115,000

There can be no doubt that during many years the amount of capital, both public and private, brought to the Colony was much larger than could be profitably absorbed, and no small portion of it was necessarily devoted to purposes purely speculative, as evidenced in the unreal value which some forms of property acquired. There was, however, an evil of greater consequence than a temporary inflation of values. It will be readily conceded that the introduction of capital within the limits of absorption and the application of it to productive purposes are conducive to true progress, while on the contrary the over-introduction of capital, however applied, means arrested progress. Of the twenty-two years comprising the eighth industrial period, 1885 and 1886 witnessed the largest introduction of capital, viz., £11,470,807 in the former, and £10,028,952 in the latter year. It is, therefore, not astonishing to find that the value of domestic produce exported in those two years when compared with population was less than in any other year in the period under review. The reader who is interested in pursuing this question will find ample food for reflection in the part of this work dealing with the export trade.

In spite, however, of the drawbacks just indicated, flowing from an unnecessary and at times a wasteful expenditure of public money, and the introduction of private money beyond its requirements, the Colony made substantial progress. At no period, except in the five golden years, 1853–7, were wages so high, and in no period was the purchasing power of money so great. The tide of improvement had reached its highest

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level during the years 1882–85, and began to recede in 1886, when employment became difficult to obtain and wages began to fall. In 1886–87 work in some of the southern district collieries was suspended for nearly twelve months by strikes and disputes; in 1888 the coal-miners of the northern district were on strike for several months; in 1888 and 1889 the completion of various large public works threw out of employment some 12,000 men—no inconsiderable proportion of the unskilled labour of the country—and large numbers of unemployed were congregated in and around Sydney; in 1890 the maritime and pastoral industries were disturbed by strikes and disputes very hurtful to the community in general, and to the working classes in particular; and in 1892 another disastrous strike occurred, causing the silver mines of Broken Hill to remain idle for fully three months.

Up to the end of 1891 there was little reduction in the nominal rate of wages in skilled trades, though for unskilled labour the rates experienced a decided decline. In 1893 there was a heavy fall all round, as will be seen from a comparison of the rates of representative trades given in the following statement. It will be apparent that the second half of the year 1893 marks the beginning of a new industrial period under vastly changed conditions, but no accurate estimate of the ultimate effect of these changes can as yet be attempted.

Trade or Calling.	1887.		1888.		1889.		1890.		1891.		1892 and first half 1893.		1893 (Second-half) and 1894.		1895.	
Males, per day, without board and lodging.																
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Carpenters	9	6	10	6	11	0	9	6	9	6	9	6	9	6	8	0
Blacksmiths	10	8	9	8	8	6	8	6	9	8	9	8	8	0	6	8
Bricklayers	11	6	10	6	11	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	9	6	8	6
Masons	10	6	10	6	11	0	10	0	10	0	9	8	8	6	7	8
Plasterers	11	0	11	0	10	6	10	6	10	0	10	0	8	6	7	0
Painters	9	0	9	0	9	6	9	6	9	6	9	0	8	0	7	0
Boilermakers	10	2	9	0	10	0	10	0	9	8	10	2	9	0	8	0
Labourers and Navvies.	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	6	7	6	0	6	0
Males, per week, with board and lodging.																
Farm labourers	17	8	17	8	15	4	15	4	15	4	13	6	12	6	12	6
Shepherds	15	4	15	4	...		...		...		.....		.....		...	
Females, per week, with board and lodging.																
Housemaids	13	6	13	6	14	0	14	0	14	0	10	0	10	0	10	0
Laundresses	18	8	18	8	18	0	18	0	18	0	14	0	14	0	14	0
Nursemaids	11	4	11	4	8	6	8	6	8	6	8	6	7	6	7	6
General servants	16	8	13	6	14	0	14	0	14	0	11	6	11	6	11	6
Cooks	21	0	21	0	25	0	25	0	25	0	14	0	14	0	14	0

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For the periods under review in the foregoing pages money wages have alone been dealt with, but it is a matter of much greater importance to ascertain the rate of real wages—that is, the purchasing power of wages in comparison with their nominal value. Such a comparison must necessarily be defective in some respects, since with changing conditions come other forms of labour, and with higher wages greater consumption, so that in comparing present times with days long past there is danger of weighing what is now important against what was formerly of no consequence; notwithstanding this it gives a more exact notion of the value of wages at different periods than can be obtained in any other way. It also affords the only true standard by which material conditions at different times can be accurately gauged. In the following table are compared an ordinary mechanic's wages in money, the level of real wages on the basis of their purchasing power, and the price level of the principal articles of consumption, for each period commencing with the year 1821. It has been thought unnecessary to extend the comparison to the first period of the Colony's history, as the conditions of industrial life, shown in the foregoing pages, allowed little play for the operations of economic laws.

Period.	Level of Money Wages.		Price level of principal Articles of Consumption.		Level of real Wages.	
	1821–37 Wages = 1000.	1873–92 Wages = 1000.	1821–37 Prices = 1000.	1873–92 Prices = 1000.	1821–37 Wages = 1000.	1873–92 Wages = 1000.
1821–1837	1,000	631	1,000	1,477	1,000	428
1838–1842	1,154	728	868	1,282	1,329	568
1843–1852	769	485	502	741	1,531	656
1853–1858	2,400	1,516	1,330	1,964	1,804	771
1859–1862	1,615	1,019	864	1,276	1,869	799
1863–1872	1,461	922	687	1,015	2,127	908
1873–1892	1,583	1,000	677	1,000	2,338	1,000

During the years 1821 to 1837 the transportation system was still in full operation, and wage-earners had to compete with bond labour, or with men who, though free, had been so long accustomed to the hard conditions of servitude that a little above a convict ration seemed as much as they could expect to earn; hence the very low level of both real and money wages during the period. During the next series of years, 1838-42, wages rose 15 per cent. and as there was a fall in prices equal to 13 per cent. the level of real wages may be said to have advanced nearly one-third. As will have been gathered from the detailed description in the earlier part of this chapter, this period closed disastrously and wages fell 33 per cent.; as it happened, however, the cost of necessaries fell still more heavily, and real wages were in reality slightly better for the whole period from 1843 to 1852 than previously,

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although several years showed a condition of things worse than was ever known in the Colony's history. When the full force of the discovery of gold began to be felt the depression vanished and wages rose over 200 per cent., and at one time averaged twice as much as those now current. Food and other necessaries also advanced, but not to the same extent as wages; so that, estimated by their purchasing power, wages of mechanics were 80 per cent. higher than in 1821-37, 36 per cent. higher than in 1838-42, and 18 per cent. higher than from 1843 to 1852. The years 1854 and 1855, taken by themselves, show a rate, both of real and of money wages, much higher than that indicated for the whole period, and perhaps higher than attained in any other year; but taking the gold era as extending from 1853 to 1858, the level of real wages—that is, their purchasing power—was not greater than in the subsequent period, as the foregoing table shows. From 1853-58 to 1859-62 there was a fall of 33 per cent. in money wages, but prices fell more heavily and the level of real wages actually rose. During the next period there was a further fall in money wages, but not to any great extent; while the drop in prices was heavy, far more than compensating for the fall in wages. During the next period, 1873-92, wages rose and prices fell, so that the level of real wages was far higher than at any other time in the history of the Colony. The comparison cannot be very well carried any later. The period now entered upon is under greatly changed conditions, which can hardly be appreciated until further developed.

The improvement in the lot of farm and station labourers and female servants is still more marked. The rise in wages of male hands has, excepting the period 1843-52, been continuous, while the increase in the pay of females has suffered no interruption, even during the disastrous years preceding the gold discovery. Coincident with the rise of nominal wages which the foregoing table exhibits, there has been a marked advance in the standard of living of the working population of the Colony, an advance even more rapid than that of wages. The cheapening of many articles of food and dress which has taken place of late years without a corresponding fall of wages, has enabled the homes of the bulk of the population to be made more comfortable. The acquisition of comforts begets the desire for further comforts, and it is therefore unlikely that any fall in wages will be assented to which will necessitate the labouring classes decreasing the standard of living they now enjoy. In this connection it may be pointed out that the evidence of the savings banks of the Colony cannot be taken as conclusive of the prosperity or depression of the working population; for if the standard of living indulged in be raised more rapidly than the rate of wages, it is obvious that the margin out of which savings are made will be decreased, although the actual condition of the masses may be materially advanced.

In the foregoing pages the condition of the worker has been considered apart from the value of his production. This latter, however, can by no means be overlooked in a review of the industrial progress of the

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Colony, for it is quite possible that what are commonly called prosperous times may be marked by a neglect of productive pursuits, and be due to uneconomic causes, such as the mortgaging of the resources of future years to feed the present. Something of the kind has taken place in New South Wales, and the existing depression is, in some sense, a reaction against the industrial conditions of former years. On page 122 is given a comparison of the exports of domestic produce over a series of years, reduced to the common level of 1894 prices. From this it appears that, judged by the volume of production—and the exports of domestic produce give a fairly reliable index to production—the lowest point reached during the past twenty-two years was in 1886; but that year was so marked by lavish State expenditure and by the influx of British capital that little attention was paid at the time to the low condition of productive enterprise. Since the year named there has been a remarkable development in the export of domestic produce, brought about by increased attention paid to productive pursuits, the opening up of the silver-mines, and the fortunate succession of favourable seasons. The year 1891 was the point of highest production, both absolutely and relatively, and though the following year was marked by a fall in the values exported, the rates for 1893 and 1894 compare very favourably with other years, and it would certainly appear that notwithstanding the reaction against the inflation of land values so prevalent a few years ago, there is nothing in the circumstances of the Colony to warrant the distrust of the future which prevails in certain quarters, and which directly led to the financial scare of 1893.

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PART XIX.

EMPLOYMENT AND PRODUCTION.

THE population of a country is naturally divided into two broad divisions—breadwinners and dependents. The census returns for New South Wales show on the side of the breadwinners 471,887 persons, of whom 382,385 were males, and 89,502 were females, while the dependents numbered 649,203, comprising 223,285 males and 425,918 females. In addition to these, there were 2,333 males and 531 females unspecified as to occupation, and these figures have been omitted in the following pages. The female worker is very rarely the breadwinner of the family, and the number of persons dependent on such is, therefore, not large; on the other hand, not a few of the female workers styled breadwinners earn less than is needed for their own support, and a rigid classification would require that they should be placed in a division between the breadwinners and dependents, but this is a refinement which cannot now be attempted. It would, however, be reasonable to set the persons dependent on women against those classed as breadwinners who are only partially self-supporting, so that the whole of the dependents may without much error be said to be supported by the male breadwinners. On the 382,385 of the last-named class there are, therefore, depending 649,203 persons, which gives a proportion of 170 dependents to every 100 male breadwinners. The term "dependent" is not altogether a happy one, seeing that under that designation are included married women and others who perform domestic duties, and the term can only be justified on the ground that for such services no money-wages are paid.

Breadwinners.

The breadwinners may be subdivided into divisions indicating their status as workers. Persons who were employed, but who neglected to state whether they were wage-earners or not, have been assumed to

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belong to the grade of wage-earners; and civil servants and other State employés have been included in the same category:—

Grade.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Employers	53,403	2,640	56,043
Persons working on their own account	49,482	14,123	63,605
Relatives assisting	8,943	7,526	16,469
Wage-earners	245,175	54,857	300,032
Persons not rightly classified either as employers or wage-earners	6,597	7,517	14,114
Unemployed	18,512	2,810	21,322
Not specified	273	29	302
Total	382,385	89,502	471,887

The employers comprise breadwinners who are assisted in their occupations by paid workers; the wage-earners whom they employ numbered 256,734, being the total stated above less 43,298 who were employed in domestic pursuits and not assisting the breadwinners. The proportion of wage-earners to every 100 employers was, therefore, 458, an average pointing to a very large number of small employers. Persons working on their own account are extremely numerous, and are especially strong amongst the farming classes and those following trading pursuits.

The persons not rightly assignable to any of the three classes just mentioned largely comprise those who derive incomes from sources which cannot be directly related to any occupation, and who are popularly styled as of independent means, the remainder being persons who vaguely described themselves as capitalists, householders, mine-owners, contractors, merchants, and the like.

The relatives returned as assisting do not form a very numerous class. They are mainly found engaged in agricultural pursuits, in which there were 7,617 males and 6,325 females; the fewness of the females is accounted for by the fact that domestic duties take up the whole of their time, and even if such were not the case, the only branch of farming in which their services could be profitably utilised is dairying.

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Dependents.

The dependents may be grouped under four subdivisions :—(*a*) persons employed in household duties without wages, and of these there were 210,799, viz., 210,701 females and only 98 males ; (*b*) persons of tender years unable to earn their own livelihood, numbering 235,590, of whom 118,454 were males and 117,136 females ; (*c*) relatives and others not performing household duties, who numbered 96,140 males and 94,123 females, in all 190,263 ; and (*d*) persons dependent on charity, or under legal detention ; of this class there were 12,551 persons, viz., 8,593 males and 3,958 females.

The persons performing household duties without wages are chiefly wives and daughters of breadwinners ; the number who could not be so described was 21,909. The relatives and others not performing household duties were for the most part aged persons, the parents or grandparents of the breadwinners. There were, however, some young persons returned under this category ; these comprised daughters or wives who could not be classed as performing domestic duties, or who desired not to be so described. The larger portion of the persons dependent on charity were living in public institutions, and, classed according to age, were as follow :—

Age Groups.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5 years	187	151	338
5 years and under 15.....	929	849	1,778
15 ,, ,, 20.....	257	307	564
20 ,, ,, 25.....	523	279	802
25 ,, ,, 45.....	2,850	1,073	3,923
45 ,, ,, 65.....	2,133	826	2,959
65 and upwards	1,701	460	2,161
Age not stated	13	13	26
Total	8,593	3,958	12,551

The indigent people of 65 years and upwards numbered 2,161 ; the total number of persons in the Colony of these ages was 28,365, so that it may be said that out of every 100 persons who reach 65 years, 8 will enter the asylums for the destitute.

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Ages of Breadwinners and Dependents.

The record of the ages of the workers is interesting chiefly as showing the employment of young persons. The number of children under 15 years who were employed was 12,437, of whom 8,612 were males and 3,825 females, the majority of each sex being in their fifteenth year. So far as can be estimated, there were not more than 1,500 children of 13 years and under employed in the Colony. This is a natural consequence of the compulsory clauses of the Public Instruction Act, which require the attendance, unless with valid excuse, of all children from 6 to 14 years for a term of 70 days in each half-year.

Reference has already been made to the number of dependents compared with the breadwinners. Still more interesting is the grouping of the dependents and breadwinners under ages. The following figures refer to males only :—

Age Groups.	Breadwinners.	Dependents.	Total.	Dependents per thousand persons in each age group.
Under 15 years.....	8,612	209,302	217,914	960
15 years and under 20	48,078	5,461	53,539	102
20 ,, ,, ,, 25	56,521	771	57,292	13
25 ,, ,, ,, 45	178,626	2,987	181,613	16
45 ,, ,, ,, 65	75,686	2,259	77,945	29
65 years and upwards	14,069	2,458	16,527	149
Not stated	793	47	840	56
Total.....	382,385	223,285	605,670	369

The age group in which the least number of dependents is found is that from 20 to 25, where the proportion per thousand is only 13. The proportion increases to 16 from 25 to 45, to 29 from 45 to 65, and to 149 per thousand persons over 65 years of age. This gradation agrees somewhat with the ascertained rate of sickness referred to in the chapter of this volume relating to Population and Vital Statistics, and it is a very probable assumption that the dependency of males, when not caused by criminality, is due to conditions of health. With females it is otherwise, as will be seen by the following table. Under the category of dependents are included wives and daughters performing domestic duties, and children of naturally dependent ages ; and, as the table shows, the proportion of dependents decreases with the progressive ages. The explanation of this will be found in the fact that the number of widows

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and deserted wives is largest at the older ages, while the number of single women compelled to rely entirely on their own earnings is also greater :—

Age Groups.	Bread-winners.	Dependents.	Total.	Dependents per thousand persons in each age group.
Under 15 years.....	3,825	209,333	213,158	982
15 years and under 20...	23,249	30,869	54,118	570
20 ,, ,, ,, 25...	21,015	31,997	53,012	604
25 ,, ,, ,, 45...	26,680	105,246	131,926	798
45 ,, ,, ,, 65...	11,487	39,912	51,399	777
65 years and upwards...	3,168	8,384	11,552	726
Not stated.....	78	177	255	694
Total.....	89,502	425,918	515,420	826

The number of women following gainful pursuits was 89,502, and of these 85,677 were of the age of 15 years and upwards. The total number of women of these ages was 302,262, so that 28·3 per cent. of women over 15 years of age were breadwinners. If these figures be compared with the proportions obtaining in other countries, they will be found to be very small, and must certainly be looked upon as evidence of the superior lot of the Australian women. In most European countries even the married women are compelled to work for such wages as they can procure, in order to assist in the support of their families, but fortunately the necessity for such labour is not yet general in this Colony.

Amongst women there is a marked absence of combination for trade purposes, and to this must be attributed most of the evils which attend women's industrial work. In some trades women are fairly well paid, but in others the current pay for a reasonable day's work is far below the sum actually required to maintain a respectable life, so that women who have no assistance from relatives are sometimes compelled to make astonishing sacrifices to enable them to live at all. This undue lowering of wages, as already pointed out, is indirectly due to want of combination, but is also greatly influenced by the competition of other women, chiefly wives, who are not solely depending upon their own earnings for support, and who, therefore, are in a position to undersell their less fortunately situated sisters.

Occupations of the People.

The occupations of all the inhabitants of the Colony were ascertained at the census of 1891, and were classified on a uniform system approved of and adopted at the Census Conference held at Hobart prior to the taking of the census. The method of classification adopted by the Australasian Colonies at the previous census was based on the English classification of 1881, which was both unsatisfactory and unscientific.

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As already explained, the population is divided into two great divisions—breadwinners and dependents. The former are arranged in the natural classes of primary producers and distributors, and these again into their various orders and sub-orders.

Dividing the population into the seven classes, and excluding 2,333 males and 531 females unspecified, the number falling under each was as follows:—

Class.	Occupation.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
I	Professional—Embracing all persons, not otherwise classed, mainly engaged in the Government and defence of the country, and in satisfying the intellectual, moral, and social wants of its inhabitants	31,491	21,089	10,402
II	Domestic—Embracing all persons engaged in the supply of board and lodging, and in rendering personal services for which remuneration is usually paid	55,867	17,659	38,208
III	Commercial—Embracing all persons directly connected with the hire, sale, transfer, distribution, storage, and security of property and materials, and with the transport of persons or goods, or engaged in effecting communication	86,629	81,291	5,338
IV	Industrial—Embracing all persons not otherwise classed, who are principally engaged in various works of utility, or in specialities connected with the manufacture, construction, modification, or alteration of materials so as to render them more available for the various uses of man, but excluding, as far as possible, all who are mainly or solely in the service of commercial interchange	140,451	122,650	17,801
V	Agricultural, pastoral, mineral, and other primary producers—Embracing all persons mainly engaged in the cultivation or acquisition of food products, and in obtaining other raw materials from natural sources	147,026	134,908	12,118
VI	Indefinite—Embracing all persons who derive incomes from services rendered, but the direction of which services cannot be exactly determined	10,423	4,788	5,635
VII	Dependents—Embracing all persons dependent upon relatives or natural guardians, including wives, children, and relatives not otherwise engaged in pursuits for which remuneration is paid, and all persons depending upon private charity, or whose support is a burthen on the public revenue	649,203	223,285	425,918

It is a matter greatly to be regretted that no exact comparison can be made between the occupations of the people in 1891 and at previous

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census periods. The tabulation for 1881 fortunately distinguished between workers and dealers, but other large divisions of workers were entirely ignored or placed with others to whom they were in no sense allied, and the separation cannot now be made. The following broad groups show the manner in which the employments were distributed in 1881 and 1891, but the classification cannot in any sense be regarded as perfect. The figures relate to males only, and 3,048 and 2,333 "not stated" are omitted in 1881 and 1891 respectively:—

Occupation.	1881.		1891.	
	Number.	Proportion per cent.	Number.	Proportion per cent.
Professional	11,546	2·83	21,089	3·48
Domestic	12,689	3·11	17,659	2·91
Commercial	41,441	10·15	81,291	13·42
Industrial	97,293	23·84	122,650	20·25
Primary producers	96,091	23·55	134,908	22·28
Indefinite	3,631	0·89	4,788	0·79
Dependents	145,410	35·63	223,285	36·87
Total	408,101	100·00	605,670	100·00

The proportions in the foregoing table refer to the whole population; a more useful comparison is perhaps afforded by taking the wage-earning population only. Comparing, on this basis, the proportions employed at each period, it will be found that there has been a slight falling off in the proportion of persons engaged in domestic pursuits, for while the total so employed has increased from 12,689 to 17,659, the percentage has fallen from 4·83 to 4·62 of the total workers. The industrial class has apparently declined from 37·04 to 32·08 per cent., and so far as can now be estimated the falling off has been in the proportion of unskilled workers. Agricultural and pastoral pursuits afforded employment in 1881 to 77,698 persons as compared with 98,748 in 1891; but the proportion to the whole workers would appear to have declined from 29·58 to 25·82 per cent. On the other hand, the commercial class increased from 15·78 per cent. of the working population to 21·26 per cent., and the mining population from 7·00 to 8·09 per cent. For reasons already given these comparisons must not be too closely insisted upon.

In 1881 only 54,963 females were returned as wage-earners, and of these 25,000, or 45·49 per cent., were following domestic pursuits, and 10,326, or 18·79 per cent., industrial; as compared with 89,502 female wage-earners in 1891, of whom 38,208, or 42·69 per cent., were engaged in domestic pursuits, and 17,801, or 19·89 per cent., were industrial workers. The greatest change in the two years has been in the number of professional women; these numbered only 4,288, or 7·80 per cent. of the workers, in

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1881, as against 10,402, or 11·62 per cent., in 1891. Few women were engaged at the time of either census in agricultural, pastoral, or other occupations of a like character. The following are the classified figures for the two census periods, omitting 2,846 and 531 not stated in 1881 and 1891 respectively :—

Occupation.	1881.		1891.	
	Number.	Proportion per cent.	Number.	Proportion per cent.
Professional	4,288	1·27	10,402	2·02
Domestic	25,000	7·41	38,208	7·41
Commercial	4,194	1·24	5,338	1·04
Industrial	10,326	3·06	17,801	3·45
Primary producers	8,905	2·64	12,118	2·35
Indefinite	2,250	0·67	5,635	1·09
Dependents	282,510	83·71	425,918	82·64
Total	337,473	100·00	515,420	100·00

It does not appear that there has been any displacement of male by female workers during the decade; it is true that the proportion of females engaged in gainful occupations has increased from 16·9 per cent. to 18·1 per cent. of the total persons employed, but this increase is due rather to the greater opportunities offering than to the displacement of persons already employed. In professional pursuits the proportion of females has increased from 27·1 in 1881 to 31·7 per cent. in 1891; in domestic pursuits, from 66·3 to 68·4 per cent.; and in industrial pursuits, from 9·6 to 12·7 per cent. In the other two great classes the proportion has fallen, as the following table shows:—

Class of Occupation.	1881.		1891.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Professional	72·9	27·1	68·3	31·7
Domestic	33·7	66·3	31·6	68·4
Commercial	90·8	9·2	93·8	6·2
Industrial	90·4	9·6	87·3	12·7
Primary producers	91·5	8·5	91·8	8·2
All Occupations	83·1	16·9	81·9	18·1

In the special chapters devoted to agriculture, pastoral pursuits, and mining, details are given which illustrate the progress and present condition of these important industries. No further reference to them is, therefore, needed in this chapter.

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MANUFACTORIES.

There is no Act in force in the Colony at present which makes it imperative for proprietors of factories and works to supply to the Statistician an annual return of their operations; but particulars are withheld in very few cases, and where they are not given it is the duty of the collector, who is usually a person possessing special knowledge of the district, to make up to the best of his ability an estimate of the employment afforded by the firm which refuses to furnish the information. Any temptation, on the one hand, to show a greater volume of business than is actually transacted during the year is reduced to a minimum by the fact that to do so would not benefit a person in any way, as no individual figures are disclosed; and, on the other hand, a tendency to show a smaller amount of business than is actually the case is guarded against by the scrupulous care taken to prevent disclosure of the contents of a schedule, and the pledge of the Statistician that under no circumstances shall such a document ever be used in connection with any system of taxation.

The method of collecting the returns is to supply the police with a number of blank forms, one of which is left with the proprietor or manager of each factory or work. This is filled up by the person in charge, and given to the police, who send it to the Statistician. The figures are carefully examined in the Statistical Office, and, if necessary, compared with the returns of preceding years; and, in the event of the scrutiny disclosing any apparent inaccuracy, the proprietor of the work is communicated with on the subject. In tabulating the schedules, only those factories and works which have been kept going all the year round are included, with the exception of sugar-mills, which are accepted if they have been working for at least six months out of the twelve. Establishments which do not use mechanical power are excluded unless they employ at least five hands, but all works and factories in which machinery is used are included, as it is obvious that an establishment where only two or three men are employed to look after machinery may turn out a greater quantity of work than another in which the services of a much larger number of men, unassisted by mechanical power, are utilised. It should be noted that no dressmakers or milliners are included in the returns, nor are manufactories of slop clothing where less than ten hands are employed. An estimate of the number of home-workers and others who are excluded will be found on page 564.

Glancing at the table which is given below, it will be seen that until 1892 the statistical year was not coincident with the calendar year, the returns being collected for the twelve months ending with March; but from the year named the annual period begins on the 1st January and ends on the 31st December. The figures are, of course, subject to those slight deviations which are incidental to the collection and compilation of most branches of statistics, but when this is borne in mind they may be accepted as being on the same basis throughout the

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decade. The only period for which an explanation is necessary is 1892. In that year the statistics were collected under the Census and Industrial Returns Act, and as originally published were not on the same basis as those for other years, a number of workers who did not usually come within the scope of the returns having been included. These comprised dressmakers and milliners; biscuit-makers, who were also employed in the baking of bread; tailors, who were also retail clothiers; manufacturers of slop clothing employing less than ten hands; blacksmiths whose work consisted chiefly in effecting repairs; and plumbers working for themselves. As they are now presented, however, the figures have been adjusted to the ordinary practice of this and the neighbouring Colonies, and 1892 has been brought into line with the other years.

Although New South Wales cannot be considered an important manufacturing country, this source of national wealth has by no means been neglected. During the year 1894 there were 2,647 manufactories or works of various descriptions, employing altogether a total of 42,751 hands, of whom 39,529 were males, and 3,222 females. 1,760 of these works had machinery in operation of a total capacity of 38,033 horse-power, of which 29,197 horse-power was actually used during the year, the plant being valued at about £5,529,866. The average value of plant per establishment was £2,089; and the average horse-power 21·6, of which 16·6 was actually used. The hands per factory averaged 16, the average in the metropolis being 25, and in the country about 11. Compared with the scale on which manufactories are worked in the older countries of the world, these figures appear very small, but they should evoke no surprise when the nature of the works and the sparseness of the population throughout a large portion of the Colony are taken into consideration:—

Year.	Number of Hands employed.			Year.	Number of Hands employed.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.		Males.	Females.	Total.
1884–85	36,390	2,404	38,794	1889–90	40,725	4,264	44,989
1885–86	38,257	3,420	41,677	1890–91	41,582	4,553	46,135
1886–87	40,160	3,367	43,527	1892	41,298	2,970	44,268
1887–88	39,365	3,686	43,051	1893	36,412	2,506	38,918
1888–89	41,299	4,265	45,564	1894	39,529	3,222	42,751

The figures in the foregoing statement represent the number usually employed, but besides these there are other hands whose employment is casual. Thus, in 1894 the average number of persons finding employment was 42,751, whereas the greatest number employed was 52,469, the excess comprising 9,028 males and 690 females, in all 9,718. The maxima of the different industries, as might be naturally expected, fell at various periods during the year, so that the whole number of 52,469 were not employed at any specific time in the various industries dealt with under the classification of manufactories and works, and it is probable that

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the greatest number employed at any one time did not in reality exceed the usual number of persons for whom employment was found by more than 6,000. Much the same condition of things obtained in other years, and it may be accepted that in the busy seasons of the year one-seventh more hands are employed than the average of the whole twelve months.

The following table, in which the hands employed are divided into eleven classes, shows the average number of persons employed in each class during the past ten years. It will be seen that the progress made in certain classes has been very small, while in others there has been a backward movement. A detailed analysis, too voluminous, however, to be given in a work of this kind, would show that the greatest progress has been made in domestic industries—that is to say, in the industries which naturally arise from the circumstances of the population, and in those connected with the preparation of perishable products. The most important increase took place during the first two years of the decade, when, with the exception of Classes VI, IX, and XI, an advance was made everywhere, the total increase in the number of hands employed being close upon 5,000. From the year 1886 to the end of 1894 there has been a slight decrease in the total number of hands employed, although some of the intermediate years show increases. The most satisfactory advance is shown in Classes I and X, due in the first case to the revival of the boiling-down trade, and in the latter case to the establishment of gas-works in many country towns, and to the employment of many more hands in Sydney and suburbs. Electric-lighting gives employment to only 98 people.

Class of Industry.	Number of hands employed.									
	1884-5	1885-6	1886-7	1887-8	1888-9	1889-90	1890-91	1892.	1893.	1894.
I. Treating raw materials, the product of pastoral pursuits	2,196	2,219	2,637	2,114	2,328	2,422	2,046	1,983	3,045	4,020
II. Connected with food and drink, or the preparation thereof	5,994	6,751	8,063	8,543	7,417	8,244	7,726	6,959	7,243	7,254
III. Clothing or textile fabrics	5,040	5,780	5,532	5,577	5,729	5,518	6,005	4,398	4,508	5,394
IV. Building materials	6,601	8,411	8,275	7,384	7,675	6,982	7,712	7,648	5,709	6,176
V. Metal works, machinery, etc.	7,137	6,891	7,219	7,701	8,986	8,211	10,236	9,760	6,686	7,373
VI. Shipbuilding, repairing, etc.	1,422	1,244	1,077	791	1,061	1,225	1,075	1,566	1,390	1,505
VII. Furniture, bedding, etc.	*566	*593	1,380	1,323	1,477	1,424	1,234	1,048	637	794
VIII. Paper, printing, binding, etc.	2,715	3,115	3,659	3,771	4,378	4,688	4,200	4,494	4,138	4,284
IX. Vehicles, harness, and saddlery	3,004	3,100	2,422	2,388	2,545	2,475	1,969	2,551	1,375	1,548
X. Light, fuel, and heat	643	743	745	963	1,299	1,414	1,545	1,895	1,976	1,683
XI. Miscellaneous	3,476	2,830	2,518	2,526	2,659	2,386	2,387	2,026	2,211	2,720
Total hands employed	38,794	41,677	43,527	43,051	45,564	44,989	46,135	44,268	38,918	42,751

* Only establishments using steam-power were returned in these years.

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Maintaining the same broad classification as before, the division of the employés into grades discloses interesting results. About 8½ per cent. of the persons employed in 1894 were managers, and 4 per cent. clerks. The number of persons working outside the factories was 2,257. Those included under this heading were chiefly carters and others engaged in delivery, and persons employed on wages preparing material to be worked up in the factories. The following are the figures of each class :—

Description of Industries.	Managers and Overseers employed.	Clerks employed.	Other persons employed inside workshops.		Persons employed outside workshops.	Total.
			Children.	Adults.		
Treating raw material, the production of pastoral pursuits	324	67	45	3,480	104	4,020
Preparing materials used as food or drink	834	455	126	5,239	600	7,254
Clothing and textile industries	215	122	54	4,685	318	5,394
Manufacture of building materials	797	184	35	4,460	700	6,176
Metal and machinery works	378	200	16	6,699	80	7,373
Shipbuilding, repairing, etc.	71	49	2	1,371	12	1,505
Furniture and bedding works	78	35	11	666	4	794
Paper, printing, binding, and engraving	391	403	97	3,287	106	4,284
Vehicles, harness, and saddlery	204	27	11	1,288	18	1,548
Light and heat	84	115	...	1,217	267	1,683
Miscellaneous	297	136	34	2,205	48	2,720
Total	3,673	1,793	431	34,597	2,257	42,751

Child labour is very little employed in the factories of the Colony. This is what might be expected, seeing that by the law regulating primary education children are required to attend school until they reach their fourteenth year. It was found at the Census of 1891 that in all occupations only 8,612 males and 3,825 females under 15 years of age were employed; in 1894 the total number working in factories was 431, viz., 377 males, and 54 females. These last figures may, however, be taken as only approximate, and it is not improbable that, owing to the remarkable reluctance of female apprentices and improvers to state their ages, the number is under the truth.

There has been some tendency for the number of hands employed in the metropolitan district to increase faster than those in the other portions of the Colony. The facilities for the establishment of large industries in and around Sydney are considerable—a commanding position as regards communication with the outside world, propinquity to the coal-fields, easy communication with the chief seats of raw production in the Colony, density of the population, and abundant water supply—these have tended to centre in the metropolitan district all the chief industries. In

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the extra-metropolitan districts the principal works are saw-mills, smelting works, sugar-mills, and flour-mills, or industries of a domestic character intended to meet a day-to-day demand, or for the treatment of perishable goods.

The following table shows the number of hands employed in the metropolitan district as compared with the remainder of the Colony for the past ten years ended with 1894 :—

Year.	Hands employed.		Year.	Hands employed.	
	Metropolitan District.	Other Districts.		Metropolitan District.	Other Districts
1884–85	22,028	17,766	1889–90	24,999	19,990
1885–86	23,282	18,395	1890–91	28,058	18,077
1886–87	24,900	18,627	1892	24,128	20,140
1887–88	24,199	18,852	1893	22,672	16,246
1888–89	25,885	19,679	1894	24,934	17,817

There is a vast field open for the development of manufactures in New South Wales. Producing, as it does, the raw material of various kinds necessary for supplying the primary wants of civilization, it is evident that the Colony must ere long find a way into some parts of this field. The one great cause which has hitherto operated to prevent the larger development of manufactures is the impossibility of drawing from a population so small and so widely scattered a fair profit on the capital required to carry them on. Hitherto the chief employment found for labour and capital has been in the primary productive industries, and these industries continuing to be profitable and population to increase, whenever the prospect of profit presents itself, manufactures, adapted to the conditions as well as to the wants of the country, will naturally establish themselves, affording other investments for capital, and avenues for the employment of labour.

Preparation of Raw Materials.

As regards the preparation of raw materials, the product of pastoral pursuits, the amount of employment offering has been not a little affected by the seasons, so that under the heads of boiling-down, fellmongering, tanning, wool-washing, and allied pursuits, the number of hands

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employed varied only slightly from 1884 to 1892, although there was a great increase during 1893 and 1894 :—

Description of Manufactory or Works.	Number of Works.	Average Number of Hands employed.						Horse-power of Plant or Machinery.	Approximate Value of Plant or Machinery.
		Managers.	Clerks.	Children.	Adults.	Outside Factory.	Total.		
									£
Boiling-down	64	94	26	26	1,409	61	1,616	1,575	92,903
Bone Manure	6	7	2	..	15	1	25	113	5,700
Glue	2	2	..	..	4	..	6	16	725
Tallow Refineries	6	11	3	..	53	1	68	77	8,503
Tanneries	105	127	8	10	967	18	1,130	640	69,117
Wool-washing	50	83	28	9	1,032	23	1,175	1,083	86,380
Total	233	324	67	45	3,480	104	4,020	3,504	263,328

Boiling-down and wool-washing works confined to station use have not been included in the above table. The number of hands given is the average at work throughout the year, but at certain seasons many more persons are at work, especially at wool-washing. As would naturally be anticipated, women do not find much employment in the industries comprised in the foregoing category, the total employed being only four. The number of children employed is also small—the table shows only forty-five. The production of tallow is an important industry, the quantity manufactured in 1894 being far larger than the production of any previous year. The rise in prices which occurred during 1892 induced pastoralists to slaughter and boil down part of their surplus stock, especially the old ewes, and although the price of tallow has fallen since then, the production has increased enormously. During 1894 the export reached the large figure of 847,236 cwt., a quantity greatly in excess of that exported in any previous year. The following statement gives the estimated quantity of tallow made in the Colony, and distinguishes the amount locally consumed from that exported:—

Year.	Estimated quantity of New South Wales Tallow.		
	Exported.	Locally consumed.	Produced.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
1884–85	98,773	100,816	199,589
1885–86	128,810	96,774	225,584
1886–87	99,451	110,850	210,301
1887–88	191,791	143,501	335,292
1888–89	174,321	175,840	350,161
1889–90	151,491	141,480	292,971
1890–91	223,618	123,080	346,698
1892	313,331	123,053	436,384
1893	657,591	183,065	840,656
1894	847,236	221,864	1,069,100

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Preparation of Food Products.

The establishments connected with the preparation of food and drink form one of the largest classes of works in New South Wales. In many places which come under this heading, and from which returns were received, the number of hands employed is small, owing to the nature of the operations carried on, although the output may be considerable; this remark applies particularly to butter factories :—

Description of Manufactory or Work.	Number of Establishments.	Average number of Hands employed.						Horse-power of Plant or Machinery.	Value of Plant or Machinery.
		Managers.	Clerks.	Inside Factory.		Outside Factory.	Total.		
				Children.	Adults.				
									£
Aerated Waters	174	196	38	20	575	..	829	455	107,960
Bacon	14	15	..	..	41	..	56	49	4,810
Biscuits	4	11	27	22	419	..	479	124	55,200
Breweries	54	80	101	5	551	7	744	1,051	150,889
Butter	167	180	21	22	371	23	617	1,126	115,817
Butterine	2	3	1	..	4	..	8	18	900
Cheese	13	17	2	4	130	12	165	60	3,995
Condensed Milk	1	1	..	..	6	..	7	14	2,500
Condiments, Coffee, and Spices	12	25	39	..	240	..	304	123	13,700
Confectionery	17	20	27	19	314	..	380	87	19,780
Cornflour	3	5	4	2	44	6	61	86	9,000
Creameries	30	31	2	4	33	2	72	211	14,107
Distillery	1	1	..	..	9	..	10	50	5,000
Flour	33	106	78	4	473	35	696	3,305	244,365
Ice and Refrigerating	15	30	65	..	399	6	500	625	187,998
Jam and Fruit-canning	14	22	22	13	282	1	340	130	7,171
Meat Preserving	6	7	8	..	273	20	308	573	24,750
Salt	1	1	..	..	2	1	4	6	250
Sugar Mills	25	46	6	..	645	477	1,174	3,476	525,711
Sugar Refineries	2	28	7	8	387	10	440	650	228,663
Vinegar	5	9	7	3	41	..	60	20	3,050
Total	643	834	455	126	5,239	600	7,254	12,239	1,725,561

Included with the foregoing figures are 8 female overseers or managers, 1 clerk, 16 children, 404 adults, and 2 working outside factory—in all, 431 females. In such establishments as aerated water factories, breweries, butter and cheese factories, flour and sugar mills, and jam factories, there is a large fluctuation in the amount of labour employed, in some seasons many more people being engaged than in others. Taking the whole of the above works, for a portion of the year there are probably fully 1,800 more hands employed than are given in the table.

The brewing industry has been stationary since 1886, when an excise of 3d. per gallon was imposed on the local manufacture of beer. It is open to question, however, whether the falling off in production is due

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to this cause, as there is evidence that the depression which marked the trade of the different Colonies during the year immediately preceding 1886 brought about a lessened demand for all forms of alcoholic liquors. The invoice value of ale and beer imported, and on which duty was paid, during 1894, was £245,619—not a very large amount considering that £160,196 of it was for beer in bottle, which the colonial breweries are only now attempting to produce on any extensive scale. The following table illustrates the present position of the brewing and bottling industry and its progress during the last nine years; the quantities manufactured in 1885 and 1886 must be accepted as approximate only, and those given for the next four years, during which period the statistical year did not coincide with the calendar year, represent the quantities on which excise was paid during 1888, 1889, 1890, and 1891 respectively:—

Year.	Hands Employed.	Manufacture of Ale, Beer, etc.
	No.	gallons.
1885–86	805	11,000,000
1886–87	987	10,000,000
1887–88	804	9,300,200
1888–89	850	9,515,200
1889–90	826	9,619,600
1890–91	793	10,594,020
1892	745	10,807,200
1893	685	9,753,200
1894	744	9,508,400

The growth of sugar-cane in the northern districts of the Colony, and the manufacture of sugar therefrom, are now becoming an important industry, the output having increased from 230,000 cwt. of sugar and 450,000 gallons of molasses in 1884–85 to 452,756 cwt. of sugar and 1,573,886 gallons of molasses in 1894. Since 1887 there has been a considerable increase in the area of land planted with sugar-cane, and in the year ended March 31, 1895, there were about 32,909 acres under this crop, of which 14,204 acres were productive. In 1877–8 the number of sugar-mills was 50, of which 24 used steam-power, whilst 26 were worked by cattle, and the number of workmen employed was 1,065. These had increased in the year 1885–86 to 83 steam-mills and 19 worked by cattle, whilst the number of men employed and the quantity of sugar and molasses turned out had correspondingly increased; but since that time the fall in the value of sugar has caused the closing of many of the smaller establishments, and the cane grown has been to an increasing extent sold to the large factories, which pay to the growers a price but slightly below that given prior to 1885. Almost everywhere the tendency to concentrate the manufacture of sugar in large central establish-

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ments is increasing. In the West Indies and elsewhere small mills are rapidly disappearing to make room for larger establishments, where business is strictly confined to the industrial process of sugar-making, the planters attending solely to the cultivation of the cane. The following shows the particulars of the sugar industry for the last ten years :—

Year.	Sugar Mills.		Horse-power.		Manufacture of—		Hands Employed.
	Worked by Steam.	Worked by Cattle.	Steam.	Cattle.	Raw Sugar.	Molasses.	
	No.	No.			cwt.	gallons.	No.
1884–85	86	12	2,855	50	230,000	450,000	2,190
1885–86	83	19	2,598	32	369,280	635,000	2,634
1886–87	57	7	2,531	21	275,000	507,000	2,259
1887–88	57	7	2,210	26	450,000	880,000	2,646
1888–89	36	.....	1,995	...	225,580	241,088	1,640
1889–90	38	2	3,034	10	380,320	494,145	2,194
1890–91	31	2	*	*	530,660	1,074,080	1,621
1892	24	1	3,594	70	485,780	789,230	1,468
1893	25	3	3,244	16	478,605	1,079,940	1,392
1894	23	2	3,476	*	452,756	1,573,886	1,174

* Not ascertained.

In addition to the 1,174 hands usually employed in 1894, there were 584 others employed at busy periods, comprising altogether 1,758. It is very possible that casual hands have been included in some of the years shown in the foregoing statement.

There were two establishments in the Colony for refining raw sugar in 1894. The quantity of sugar melted during the year was 756,200 cwt., of which 250,353 cwt. was imported, chiefly from Queensland. The remaining 505,847 cwt. was raw sugar produced in the Colony. The returns relating to sugar refineries for the last ten years are given in the subjoined table :—

Year.	Sugar Refineries.	Hands employed.	Quantity of Sugar melted.	Year.	Sugar Refineries.	Hands employed.	Quantity of Sugar melted.
	No.	No.	cwt.		No.	No.	cwt.
1884–85	2	172	370,000	1889–90	1	230	600,000
1885–86	2	224	384,000	1890–91	1	300	660,000
1886–87	2	214	510,000	1892	1	372	772,948
1887–88	1	200	537,900	1893	2	672	805,058
1888–89	1	210	550,149	1894	2	440	756,200

The hands given above as engaged during the year are only those in constant employment; in addition, there are many men employed for longer or shorter periods in discharging ships, storing sugar, and other work incidental to the trade.

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Almost from the introduction of the sugar-growing industry in New South Wales, the manufacture of sugar has been largely in the hands of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, whose mills on the Clarence, the Richmond, and the Tweed have been referred to in another part of this work. This company also owns one of the two sugar refineries in the Colony, where the produce of their local mills is refined, together with a portion of the output of their factories in Fiji and Queensland.

The amount of mill-power for grinding and dressing grain is ample for treating the flour consumed in the Colony. As the Colony does not produce sufficient grain for its own requirements, it is not at all probable that there will be any notable increase in the number of flour-mills, as those existing are mostly at work only part of their time. Wind and horse-power, as applied to the dressing of grain, have fallen into disuse, and only two water-mills are included in the returns for 1894. The figures in the following table approximate closely to the actual amount of wheat treated in the local mills :—

Year.	New South Wales Wheat treated.	Imported Wheat treated.	Total Wheat treated.	Total Flour made.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	tons.
1884–85	3,983,246	418,434	4,401,680	88,033
1885–86	3,927,273	497,775	4,425,048	88,501
1886–87	2,402,057	984,773	3,386,830	67,736
1887–88	4,460,629	233,535	4,694,164	93,883
1888–89	3,975,030	2,238,330	6,213,360	129,445
1889–90	2,442,000	3,255,168	5,697,168	118,691
1890–91	5,049,000	634,008	5,683,008	118,396
1892	3,120,340	883,292	4,003,632	83,409
1893	6,356,260	459,740	6,816,000	142,000
1894	5,426,262	254,010	5,680,272	118,339

Particulars of the flour-mills in operation in the Colony for the last ten years are given below :—

Year.	Flour-mills.			Year.	Flour-mills.		
	No.	Horse-power.	Hands Employed.		No.	Horse-power.	Hands Employed.
1884–85	161	3,207	662	1889–90	103	2,638	635
1885–86	159	3,092	662	1890–91	102	2,363	594
1886–87	133	2,650	571	1892	72	1,936	568
1887–88	128	2,781	599	1893	87	2,531	699
1888–89	110	2,877	628	1894	83	3,305	696

In the figures for 1887 one horse-mill of 12-horse power is included, and in those for 1894 there are two water-mills of 25-horse power.

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Manufactories of Clothing and Textiles.

The third class of industries is connected with the manufacture of clothing and textile fabrics. The different descriptions of works are given below :—

Description of Manufactories or Works.	Number of Establishments.	Average number of Hands employed.											
		Managers.		Clerks.		Children.		Adults.		Outside Factory.		Total.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Boots and shoes	68	127	15	70	1	23	9	2,473	660	23	19	2,716	704
Clothing	18	34	5	25	1	1	14	275	841	2	268	337	1,129
Furriers	4	4	1	4	..	..	..	23	20	4	..	35	21
Hats and caps	2	1	1	1	..	..	..	3	4	..	..	5	5
Oilskin and water-proof clothing	4	4	..	3	..	1	..	12	7	..	2	20	9
Shirtmaking	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	..	..	1	18
Underclothing (Women's and Children's)	3	6	4	7	..	..	..	13	143	..	..	26	147
Woollen cloth	5	12	..	9	1	3	3	135	58	..	..	159	62
Total	105	189	26	119	3	28	26	2,934	1,751	29	289	3,299	2,095

Power is not employed to any extent in the industries included in the foregoing class, except in boot factories and woollen mills. In boot factories plant valued at £65,151 is employed, the machinery having a capacity of 214 horse-power; in clothing factories the value of plant is £6,225; and in woollen mills the plant is valued at £28,100, the capacity of the machinery being 174 horse-power.

As a wool-growing country New South Wales is apparently specially adapted for the manufacture of woollen goods, and accordingly that industry was one of the earliest organised in the Colony. The endeavour to promote the local manufacture of woollen goods has so far met with little success. Several factories have struggled along for some time, but have made no headway, the largest establishments finding it needful to add to their business the making of slop clothing, and by these means they have been enabled to carry on at a profit. The machinery in most of the mills is not of the best kind, and altogether the industry is disappointing.

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The following table shows the number of woollen-mills in operation, the number of employés, and the quantity of cloth manufactured during each of the last ten years :—

Year.	Woollen-mills.	Hands Employed.			Quantity of Woollen Cloth manufactured.
		Males.	Females.	Total.	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	yards.
1884–85	7	175	137	312	305,000
1885–86	6	134	189	323	337,750
1886–87	8	104	78	182	324,788
1887–88	5	101	71	172	348,000
1888–89	5	117	60	177	241,000
1889–90	5	110	62	172	207,500
1890–91	4	94	61	155	310,000
1892	5	127	58	185	202,088
1893	5	144	59	203	440,500
1894	5	159	62	221	461,000

From these figures it will be noticed that the number of woollen-mills in operation has decreased, and that the five now at work provide employment for 221 persons only. During the years from 1882 to 1884 nearly twice this number of hands were employed. It will be observed that the quantity of woollen cloth which is stated to have been manufactured bears no fixed proportion to the hands employed. The figures are set down from the manufacturers' own returns, and are given for what they are worth.

The employment afforded in the manufacture of boots has kept pace with the growth of population, as will be perceived from the table below. The improved efficiency of the machinery employed is, however, apparent in the increased output :—

Year.	Boot Factories.	Hands Employed.			Boots Manufactured.
		Males.	Females.	Total.	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	pairs.
1884–85	68	1,871	418	2,289	.....
1885–86	65	1,672	433	2,105	.....
1886–87	68	1,856	416	2,272	1,881,210
1887–88	60	1,837	436	2,273	2,278,612
1888–89	57	1,618	427	2,045	2,559,980
1889–90	59	1,955	465	2,420	2,196,815
1890–91	60	2,262	544	2,806	2,634,254
1892	66	2,230	478	2,708	2,500,000
1893	54	2,429	661	3,090	2,545,061
1894	68	2,716	704	3,420	2,611,700

From the above figures it will be noticed that there has been an increase in the number of hands from 2,289 in 1884–85 to 3,420 in 1894, while the number of establishments is the same as it was ten years ago.

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There appears to be a tendency for large factories to supersede small works, and drive the latter out of competition in this particular branch of manufacture. The average number of hands employed in each factory has risen from 33·7 in 1884–85 to 50·3 in 1894. The number of pairs of boots manufactured during the latter year was 2,611,700; this quantity is somewhat less than in 1890–91, but a comparison simply by pairs manufactured is not altogether satisfactory. The description of boot made has very greatly improved of late years, and to this circumstance may be attributed the falling off in the number produced coincident with an increase in the employment afforded.

Metal Works.

The number of metal and machinery works in operation during 1894, the average number of hands employed, and the machinery and other plant used, were as follow :—

Description of Manufactory or Work.	Number of Establishments.	Average number of Hands employed.						Machinery and other Plant.	
		Managers.	Clerks.	Children.	Adults.	Outside Manufactory.	Total.	Horse-power.	Value.
									£
Agricultural implements	15	16	5	2	109	2	134	77	7,300
Blacksmithing	33	35	4	4	133	..	176	55	7,935
Boiler-making	1	2	..	..	17	..	19	20	2,000
Brass	10	12	4	..	87	1	104	124	6,980
Coppersmithing	5	10	2	..	73	..	85	20	7,720
Engineering	44	62	62	..	695	..	819	496	137,570
Galvanised iron	19	24	11	..	201	2	238	29	9,210
Iron works and foundries	44	66	29	3	882	17	997	1,009	175,982
Lead	5	6	2	..	24	5	37	315	20,100
Metal (ornamental)	1	1	..	..	2	..	3	1	950
Railway carriages	3	8	22	..	385	..	415	487	81,000
Railway springs	1	1	..	..	5	..	6	10	1,000
Railway and tramway workshops	37	30	22	..	2,272	..	2,324	941	122,843
Smelting	15	34	19	..	1,418	45	1,516	2,237	194,525
Tinsmithing	27	34	1	6	108	..	149	12	6,429
Wire-working	4	9	8	..	152	..	169	24	21,635
Zinc (ornamental)	3	7	2	..	26	..	35	8	1,450
Other metal works	19	21	7	1	110	8	147	63	12,570
Total	286	378	200	16	6,699	80	7,373	5,928	817,199

The classification of works connected with machinery, engineering, and foundries presents many difficulties, as the trades are in many cases carried on side by side in the same establishment, and what one year is designated by a proprietor an "engineering establishment," may in the following year be returned as a "foundry," according to the importance of the work done during the year. The various descriptions of ironworks have been separately shown above, so far as it has been possible to classify them, but the figures referring to kindred industries should be read together.

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The iron trade should in time form one of the great staple industries of the Colony. Every natural advantage possessed by the great iron and machinery-producing countries of the world—such as England and Belgium—is also present here. Not only are iron and coal deposited in abundance, and in positions easily accessible and readily worked, but, as pointed out on page 213 of of this work, the local iron ore is exceedingly rich. Scarcely any progress, however, has been made in iron smelting, and nearly the whole stock of pig and wrought iron required for the local manufactories is imported. The other descriptions of metal works, both for smelting and manufacturing, are in a more forward state.

Works for the treatment of metals in 1884–85 numbered 329, in which were engaged 5,481 persons, while in 1894 the number of works had increased to 378, and the hands employed to 7,373. In 1884–85 there were 903 hands employed in 13 smelting works; the works now number 15, and the hands employed, 1,516. There has been a large increase in the hands employed in making or repairing railway motors, carriages, and other appliances, the employés in 1884–85 numbering 698, and in 1894, 2,739. Of the latter, 2,324 were employed in the workshops connected with the State railways.

Building Materials.

Industries directly or indirectly connected with the supply or preparation of building materials afford employment to a large number of persons, chiefly in saw-mills. The following table shows the hands employed during 1894:—

Description of Manufactory or Work.	Number of Establishments.	Average number of Hands employed.						Machinery and other Plant.	
		Managers.	Clerks.	Children.	Adults.	Outside Factory.	Total.	Horse-power.	Value.
									£
Asphalt	8	11	3	..	48	1	63	90	4,580
Bricks	165	192	22	10	989	29	1,242	1,216	142,280
Cement	2	3	2	..	41	13	59	120	33,000
Joinery	38	55	4	3	274	5	341	279	29,520
Lime, plaster, etc.	10	11	2	..	61	2	76	56	15,570
Marble and monumental masonry	61	80	11	1	494	29	615	339	34,849
Modelling and pattern-making	3	6	..	..	6	..	12	..	700
Paint	1	1	..	..	6	..	7	25	3,000
Pottery	16	25	7	10	167	8	217	204	24,550
Saw-mills	299	391	130	11	2,124	601	3,257	5,101	292,790
Stone-crushing	7	9	2	..	205	12	228	239	13,170
Wood-turning and carving	12	13	1	..	45	...	59	68	3,890
Total	622	797	184	35	4,460	700	6,176	7,737	597,899

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The number of persons employed in the various timber districts, in saw-mills, etc., increased at a good ratio from 1884 to 1892, but has since then fallen off owing to the stagnation in the building trade. The establishments in 1884–85 numbered 376, employing a total number of 3,477 persons, while in 1894 there were 299 mills, and the number of hands employed was 3,257. The capacity of plant in the latter year was 5,101 horse-power, and its value about £292,790; the quantity of timber sawn was estimated at 173,088,000 superficial feet 1 inch thick. The number of saw-mills and hands employed and the output during the past ten years were:—

Year.	Saw-mills.	Hands employed.	Quantity of Timber sawn.
	No.	No.	1,000 sup. feet.
1884–85	376	3,477	.....
1885–86	415	3,783	.....
1886–87	323	3,284	110,000
1887–88	322	3,254	125,000
1888–89	317	3,616	185,000
1889–90	325	3,578	185,021
1890–91	346	3,788	201,505
1892	288	4,573	229,696
1893	283	3,266	196,114
1894	299	3,257	173,088

The industry of brickmaking has declined in importance, and now employs less than half the hands of ten years ago. This is due to the almost entire suspension of large public works, and to the lessened activity of private builders. The following is a statement of the hands employed for the past ten years, and the output for the last eight years:—

Year.	Hands employed.	Bricks made.	Year.	Hands employed.	Bricks made.
	No.	thousands.		No.	thousands.
1884–85	3,078	.....	1889–90	1,874	187,769
1885–86	3,617	.....	1890–91	2,018	184,862
1886–87	2,959	243,831	1892	1,504	115,293
1887–88	2,230	214,199	1893	1,357	105,442
1888–89	2,124	219,795	1894	1,242	92,113

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Light and Heat.

The hands employed in establishments connected with lighting and heating showed a steady increase until 1893, but in 1894 the smaller number finding employment in kerosene and gas works caused a reduction in the total of nearly 300. During the past ten years there were employed :—

Year.	Hands.	Year.	Hands.
1884–85	643	1889–90	1,414
1885–86	743	1890–91	1,545
1886–87	745	1892	1,895
1887–88	933	1893	1,976
1888–89	1,299	1894	1,683

The condition of employment in the various industries grouped in this class during 1894 was as follows :—

Description of Manufactory or Work.	Number of Establishments.	Average number of Hands employed.						Machinery and Plant.	
		Managers.	Clerks.	Children.	Adults.	Outside Works.	Total.	Horse-power.	Value.
									£
Coke	4	5	2	..	57	12	76	94	36,500
Electric light	21	22	6	..	68	2	98	1,756	89,765
Gas	42	55	105	..	1,031	253	1,444	672	816,857
Kerosene	2	2	2	..	61	..	65	320	31,450
Total	69	84	115	..	1,217	267	1,683	2,842	974,572

The majority of the hands, as will be seen, found employment in gasworks, of which there were 42 in operation during the year 1894, employing 1,444 hands. The quantity of gas manufactured was 1,773 million cubic feet, to produce which about 167,000 tons of coal were used, giving an average of about 10,600 feet of gas for each ton of coal. The quantity of gas made during the past seven years was :—

Year.	Thousand cubic feet of gas.	Year.	Thousand cubic feet of gas.
1887–88	1,361,408	1892	1,670,944
1888–89	1,379,150	1893	1,805,812
1889–90	1,434,942	1894	1,772,557
1890–91	1,512,232		

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The rate charged to consumers varies in different localities between 3s. per 1,000 feet in Bathurst and 17s. 6d. in Deniliquin, while the prices for street lighting vary from £4 10s. per lamp per annum in Sydney to £10 in Hay. The price charged to private consumers in Sydney and suburbs has been reduced recently to 4s. 6d. per 1,000 feet. The total consumption of gas in Sydney and suburbs during 1894 was 1,495,202,000 cubic feet, and that in Melbourne and suburbs 1,579,479,000 cubic feet. From these figures it follows that the consumption per inhabitant in Sydney was 3,540 cubic feet, and in Melbourne 3,573 cubic feet.

Printing Trades.

The trades connected with printing and bookbinding are perhaps more keenly affected by general prosperity or depression than any other industry. The effect of stagnation in trade matters will be seen from the figures relating to employment in printing and allied works during the last few years :—

Year.	Hands employed.	Year.	Hands employed.
1887–88	3,771	1892	4,494
1888–89	4,378	1893	4,138
1889–90	4,688	1894	4,284
1890–91	4,200		

The following shows the subdivision of the hands for the year 1894 :—

Description of Manufactory or Work.	Number of Establishments.	Average number of Hands employed.						Machinery and Plant.	
		Managers.	Clerks.	Children.	Adults.	Outside Factory.	Total.	Horse-power.	Value
									£
Electrotyping and stereotyping	3	5	..	..	25	....	30	5	12,665
Paper box, etc.	6	9	6	..	91	2	108	2	2,050
Paper mill	1	1	3	..	50	....	54	200	15,000
Printing and bookbinding	181	370	392	97	3,092	104	4,055	815	408,597
Printing materials	4	6	2	..	29	....	37	14	9,350
Total	195	391	403	97	3,287	106	4,284	1,036	447,662

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Vehicles and Saddlery.

The number of large establishments connected with the manufacture of vehicles and saddlery is not great, the average number of hands employed in all works being only nine. The following figures refer to 1894 :—

Description of Manufactory or Work.	Number of Establishments.	Average number of Hands employed.						Machinery and Plant.	
		Managers.	Clerks.	Children.	Adults.	Outside Factory.	Total.	Horse-power.	Value.
									£
Coaches and waggons	145	170	22	8	1,021	3	1,224	120	39,660
Saddlery, saddle-trees, whips, etc.	27	34	5	3	267	15	324	11	3,155
Total.....	172	204	27	11	1,288	18	1,548	131	42,815

As already explained in the chapter treating of forestry, the timbers of the Colony are very suitable for coach and waggon building, and it is likely that the immediate future will see them more generally used for this purpose. There is room in New South Wales for the establishment of factories for the manufacture of wheels, which are at present largely imported from the United States ; and if they were conducted on American lines they would probably secure the whole of the Australasian trade.

Ship and Boat Building.

During the year 1894, works connected with the building or refitting of ships employed 1,505 hands, by far the largest portion of whom were engaged in or about the port of Sydney. Nearly all the docks, too, are in Sydney, where is situated the Sutherland Dock, one of the largest single graving docks yet constructed. A more detailed description of the facilities existing in the Colony for the accommodation of shipping will be found in the chapter dealing with Shipping :—

Description of Manufactory or Work.	Number of Establishments.	Average number of Hands employed.						Machinery and Plant.	
		Managers.	Clerks.	Children.	Adults.	Outside Factory.	Total.	Horse-power.	Value.
									£
Boat-building	17	19	2	...	45	...	66	75	6,230
Docks	6	12	18	...	480	...	510	625	83,700
Sails and tarpaulins	8	8	...	...	54	4	66	4	1,160
Shipbuilding	12	32	29	2	792	8	863	814	192,620
Total	43	71	49	2	1,371	12	1,505	1,518	283,710

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Furniture

The furniture and allied trades now employ little more than half the hands that they did five or six years ago, the numbers being :—

Year.	Hands employed.	Year.	Hands employed.
1886–87	1,380	1890–91	1,234
1887–88	1,323	1892	1,048
1888–89	1,477	1893	637
1889–90	1,424	1894	794

The decline in the number of hands was continuous from 1888 to 1893, but the figures for 1894 show an increase over those for the previous year. Included with the 453 hands engaged in making furniture are 202 Chinese. Formerly the number of these aliens occupied in the cabinet-making industry was much larger, but the Chinese Restriction Act has effectually prevented the recruiting of hands for the shops employing them, and by putting a premium on their labour has enabled them, where they remained in the employment of the furniture factories, to obtain higher wages. Of late years there has been a marked tendency for the Chinese workmen to abandon their old employment, and combine in threes and fours for the purpose of establishing co-operative shops.

Description of Manufactory or Work.	Number of Establishments.	Average number of Hands employed.						Machinery and Plant.	
		Managers.	Clerks.	Children.	Adults.	Outside Factory.	Total.	Horse-power.	Value.
									£
Bedding, flock, and upholstery ...	15	22	10	...	229	2	263	93	7,955
Furniture	41	47	17	8	379	2	453	85	9,445
Picture frames	3	3	7	2	35	...	47	13	700
Window blinds	5	6	1	1	23	...	31	3	2,235
Total	64	78	35	11	666	4	794	194	20,335

Miscellaneous Industries.

Besides the industries already dealt with, there are numerous others not readily falling under any of the categories into which the manufactories have been grouped. These have been placed together in the following table, though there is little relation between any two there included. None of the industries, tobacco-manufacturing and soap and

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candle-making perhaps excepted, finds employment for any large number of hands; but many of them promise to develop into important interests, as there is an ample field for them in the Colony.

Description of Manufactory or Work.	Number of Establishments.	Average number of Hands employed.						Machinery and Plant.	
		Managers.	Clerks.	Children.	Adults.	Outside Factory.	Total.	Horse-power.	Value.
									£
Asbestos	1	1	..	..	2	..	3	6	120
Baskets	9	10	..	..	34	..	44	..	50
Billiard tables	2	3	..	..	14	..	17	14	850
Boxes and packing cases	5	6	4	..	91	..	101	28	2,765
Brooms and brushes	9	11	7	2	65	2	87	7	1,176
Bush products	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	70
Chaff-cutting and corn-crushing	45	51	15	7	210	19	302	303	14,150
Chemicals	4	6	1	..	45	..	52	32	20,160
Cooperage	17	21	5	2	289	..	317	203	15,060
Cutlery	1	1	..	..	2	..	3	4	150
Dye works	7	9	..	..	37	..	46	6	1,070
Electro-plating	4	6	3	..	25	..	34	21	2,150
Eucalyptus preparations	4	9	3	1	10	10	33	5	925
Explosives	2	6	..	..	22	..	28	..	950
Fancy leather	3	3	..	..	10	..	13	..	160
Glass (including bottles)	3	6	2	..	99	..	107	11	4,500
,, (ornamental)	7	8	3	..	42	..	53	30	3,980
Hydraulic power	1	1	..	..	7	..	8	850	25,000
Incubators	1	1	..	..	6	..	7	10	750
Leather-belting	2	3	5	..	30	..	38	44	3,090
Mats	2	5	1	..	39	..	45	3	550
Patent medicines	3	4	5	..	34	..	43	6	1,030
Patent refuse destructor	1	2	1	1	2	..	6	20	250
Perambulator	1	1	..	..	10	1	12	..	200
Photo-engraving	2	2	2	..	13	1	18	..	485
Portmanteaux and bags	2	3	2	2	47	..	54	3	1,160
Rope and fishing-lines	7	15	2	2	100	..	119	105	12,625
Sewing machines	1	1	..	..	43	..	44	12	1,000
Soap and candles	49	61	43	16	336	11	467	556	87,073
Surgical instruments	4	4	..	..	24	..	28	2	940
Tobacco	11	31	31	1	505	2	570	191	51,600
Tobacco pipes	1	1	..	..	5	..	6	..	80
Umbrellas, etc.	1	1	..	..	4	..	5	..	380
Varnish	1	2	1	..	2	2	7	1	300
Wood sheaves	1	1	..	..	1	..	2	2	200
Total	215	297	136	34	2,205	48	2,720	2,475	255,009

Tallow being one of the staple products of the country, the manufacture of soap and candles, as might be expected, is firmly established, and capable of fully supplying the local requirements. The quantity of toilet and fancy soap made, is, however, as yet but small, and in quality it is scarcely equal to that imported at lower prices. Common soap of local make is cheaper than the imported article, and being also much better, it commands the local market. The quantity made in 1884-85 was 131,244 cwt., which had increased to 204,623 cwt. in 1894. The quantity of candles manufactured was 1,683,360 lb. in 1885–86, and 4,785,109 lb. in 1894, and the supply, including imports, was 4,524,983 lb. and 6,579,288 lb. respectively. The following table shows the pro-

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gress of the industry during the past ten years. The quantities stated in the table are those returned by the manufacturers, and are given for what they are worth, but it is believed that the information for years previous to 1892 is but little to be relied on :—

Year.	Factories.	Hands employed.	Quantities manufactured.	
			Soap.	Candles.
	No.	No.	cwt.	lb.
1884–85	34	204	131,244	.....
1885–86	40	223	138,849	1,683,360
1886–87	46	321	155,430	2,199,282
1887–88	52	367	190,060	2,442,960
1888–89	59	397	198,880	2,796,700
1889–90	30	250	164,800	2,388,440
1890–91	27	194	143,520	1,545,920
1892	21	257	110,360	3,304,130
1893	51	411	180,576	3,510,155
1894	49	467	204,623	4,785,109

The use of tobacco and cigarettes of local manufacture has, to a very large extent, superseded that of the imported articles. The amount of cigars made in the Colony is, on the other hand, very small compared with the total quantity consumed. In 1886 there were 5,340 lb. of leaf used in the local manufacture of cigarettes, while in 1894 the quantity had increased to 114,971 lb. The weight of each description of tobacco used in the Colony during 1894 amounted to :—

Description.	Imported Manufactured.	Made in the Colony.	Total.
	lb.	lb.	lb.
Tobacco	900,955	1,732,496	2,633,451
Cigars	184,420	5,117	189,537
Cigarettes	59,540	114,971	174,511

A large amount of imported leaf is used in the manufacture of tobacco in the Colony, the proportion during 1894 being 540,009 lb. of imported leaf, chiefly American, to 1,312,575 lb. of New South Wales leaf. The quantity of each kind of tobacco made in the Colony, as well as the weight of leaf used in the manufacture, will be found in the following table. The quantity of leaf given does not include stalks and stems, which are taken out in the process of manufacture. As ingredients other than tobacco leaf are known to be used in the making of tobacco, it is probable that the figures showing the quantity of locally-grown leaf

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used are too high. The proportion of leaf not used would be about 25 per cent. of the total weight.

Year.	* Tobacco Leaf used.		Quantity manufactured.		
	New South Wales Leaf.	Imported Leaf.	Tobacco.	Cigars.	Cigarettes.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1886	1,495,191	561,514	2,044,240	7,125	5,340
1887	1,611,527	552,217	2,147,418	6,057	10,269
1888	1,463,815	610,485	2,062,380	3,624	8,296
1889	1,440,244	545,743	1,971,394	5,393	9,200
1890	1,345,620	569,420	1,892,592	4,120	18,328
1891	1,403,240	639,148	1,982,991	3,412	55,965
1892	1,429,136	617,608	1,964,624	5,128	76,992
1893	1,284,582	597,482	1,776,560	480	105,024
1894	1,312,575	540,009	1,732,496	5,117	114,971

* Stalks and fibre of leaf removed.

Government Employes.

The Government of the Colony is a very considerable factor in the labour market, as it has in its pay no less than 31,741 persons, including those temporarily engaged, but excluding all persons who are merely entitled to receive fees from the public for services rendered. The police are included, but only such of the defence forces as are in receipt of regular salaries. Of the number given, less than 18,000 can be called civil servants in the sense in which the term is ordinarily employed.

The following table gives the distribution amongst the Departments :—

Department.	Number.
Chief Secretary	3,246
Railways and Tramways	10,715
Public Instruction	4,854
Public Works	4,902
Postmaster-General (Post and Telegraphs)	3,471
Colonial Treasurer	1,608
Justice and Attorney-General	1,365
Lands	779
Mines and Agriculture	650
Other Departments (Executive, Legislature, and Mint)	151
Total	31,741

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The figures given above include a large number of persons who are only partially employed during the year, and are in receipt of very small salaries.

The salaries and wages paid in the various departments of the Public Service during the year 1894, were as follow :—

Department.	Salaries.	Wages.	Total.
	£	£	£
Executive and Legislative Establishments	34,556	787	35,343
Sydney Mint	5,842	3,513	9,355
Chief Secretary	397,595	27,495	425,090
Military and Naval Forces	92,834	168	93,002
Colonial Treasurer	203,275	61,994	265,269
Railways and Tramways	242,043	1,113,757	1,355,800
Attorney-General	20,197	.....	20,197
Justice	202,362	1,507	203,869
Lands	180,225	14,448	194,673
Public Works	242,021	361,861	603,882
Public Instruction	589,019	1,004	590,023
Mines and Agriculture	79,246	18,675	97,921
Post Office and Telegraphs	426,313	10,435	436,748
Total	2,715,528	1,615,644	4,331,172

Steam Power.

The power used in the Colony for manufacturing, transporting, and other purposes is equivalent to 158,287 horse-power, or 128 horse-power for every thousand persons, a rate comparing not unfavourably with other countries, as will be seen from the subjoined statement, computed from Mulhall's Dictionary of Statistics :—

Country.	Horse-power employed.	Per 1,000 of the population.
	thousands.	
United Kingdom	9,200	250
France	4,520	110
Germany	6,200	130
Russia	2,240	30
Austria	2,150	50
Italy	830	30
Spain	740	40
Belgium	810	140
Holland	340	80
United States	14,400	240
New South Wales	158	128

Of the total power employed in the Colony, by far the greater portion is derived from steam. The services for which the power is used are shown in the following table, from which it will be seen that land and

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water transport absorb 88,920 horse-power, or 56 per cent. of the total horse-power consumed. The information with regard to transport and manufactories is fairly exact, but is only approximate for the other industries:—

Industries employing power.	Horse-power.
Transport, Land	68,350
Transport, Water	20,570
Manufactories, etc.	29,197
Agricultural, Pastoral, and Dairy Farming	19,470
Mining	9,200
Miscellaneous	11,500
Total	158,287

New South Wales has few running streams so placed as to be available for the purpose of driving machinery for manufacturing purposes. The larger portion of the power used is, therefore, derived from steam; in some instances, chiefly in the metropolis, gas is employed; the other power used is in a few cases hydraulic or electric, while the balance comprises machinery worked by horses and cattle. In the table given below the number of machines using each class of power is shown, with the aggregate horse-power. By this last term is understood the actual power required to work the processes, not the power capable of being generated by the boilers or machinery:—

Classification of Industries.	Machinery driven by			Horse-power.		
	Steam.	Gas.	Other Power.	Steam.	Gas.	Other Power.
Treating raw material, the product of pastoral pursuits	155	...	7	2,569	...	20
Connected with food or drink, or the preparation thereof	476	28	44	9,755	73	74
Clothing and textile fabrics	15	27	2	208	141	16
Building materials	404	10	37	5,950	55	96
Metal works, machinery, engineering, etc.	175	12	1	4,265	29	18
Docks, ships, ship-building, and sail-making	14	2	1	854	3	50
Furniture, bedding, etc.	14	6	1	123	29	10
Paper, printing, binding, engraving, etc.	21	107	2	417	359	2
Vehicles, harness, saddlery	17	1	...	90	4	...
Light and heat	60	6	1	1,856	22	1
Other works	101	20	11	1,178	54	876
Total	1,452	219	107	27,265	769	1,163

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As few manufactories use different kinds of motive power at the same time, the total of the first three columns of the above table is only 18 in excess of the total number of establishments using machinery, which is 1,760.

Returns regarding the employment of machinery in manufactories have been obtained for some few years, and the aggregate figures for each year are given below. The figures are given for what they are worth, as for years previous to 1892 it cannot be claimed that they are more than approximate :—

Year.	Horse-power of Machinery employed in Manufactories.
1886–87	25,192
1887–88	26,152
1888–89	24,990
1889–90	25,790
1890–91	24,662
1892	28,061
1893	27,162
1894	29,197

The importance of the manufacturing industry to the coal producer may be gathered from the fact that out of a total of 3,780,968 tons raised and 1,589,263 tons required for local consumption in 1892, 755,000 tons were used for manufacturing purposes, in addition to 158,000 tons consumed by gas-works. The total value of fuel consumed was £425,161, of which £396,375 was the value of coal; the value of firewood, gas, or other fuel was, therefore, not considerable.

Value of Production.

The value of the product of the manufacturing industry is not ascertained every year, as the labour and expense involved in obtaining the information are very considerable. The last year for which there are full particulars is 1892. It was then ascertained that the total value of articles produced, or, where manufacturing in its restricted sense is not carried on, the increased value to materials from treatment, was £16,098,630; the value of materials used, including fuel, was £8,299,840; and the difference, £7,798,790, represents the production. This last item may again be divided into £4,458,836, the amount of wages paid, and £3,339,954, the earnings of capital. What is the income, properly so called, of those who carry on the industries, apart from rent and interest on borrowed capital and trade losses, was not ascertained. An attempt to arrive at this sum was made, but the results deduced from the information supplied cannot be considered accurate, and are therefore not given. In the following statement the various elements of cost

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are shown for each class of industry, as well as the amount of fixed capital embarked. By fixed capital is understood the value of lands and buildings, machinery, and plant :—

Class of Industry.	Establishments.	Fixed Capital.	Total Wages paid.	Value of Materials used.	Value of Fuel used.	Value of Articles produced, or increased value to materials from treatment.
	No.	£	£	£	£	£
Raw Material, the product of Pastoral Pursuits.	140	505,908	151,134	350,500	15,410	729,908
Connected with Food and Drink or the preparation thereof.	511	4,100,034	580,204	3,123,697	83,546	4,899,007
Clothing and Textile Fabrics	259	904,888	465,291	865,443	1,772	1,550,415
Building Materials	500	2,798,080	742,786	918,193	94,978	2,031,530
Metal Works, Machinery, etc.	267	3,326,240	1,227,439	1,273,183	193,167	3,274,116
Ship-building, Repairing, etc.	32	759,044	119,079	88,462	1,965	262,475
Furniture, Bedding, etc.....	70	242,911	88,112	164,211	747	298,684
Books, Paper, Printing, Engraving, etc.	160	1,549,332	482,910	273,649	6,358	1,089,319
Vehicles, Harness, and Saddlery....	186	449,766	227,335	210,924	3,188	545,598
Light, Fuel, and Heat	57	1,825,320	208,730	159,274	14,073	507,149
Miscellaneous	137	1,077,456	165,866	467,146	9,967	820,428
Total.....	2,319	17,538,979	4,458,836	7,874,682	425,161	16,098,629

The value of wool washed has been omitted from the total under the heading of value of articles produced and increased value to materials treated ; so also has the value of repairs effected in Government workshops and docks.

It is not possible to give like information to what is shown in the foregoing table in regard to the year 1894 ; but the total value of production, apart from the materials used, may be set down at £6,726,750, and of this amount wages represent £3,800,000.

The value of the production of the manufacturing industry has been estimated for 1880 and some succeeding years, and is shown in the following table. The figures are practically on the same basis as those for 1892, the details of which are given above.

Year.	Value of Production.
	£
1880	4,437,700
1885	6,296,000
1890	7,615,000
1892	7,798,786
1894	6,726,750

The employment and production alluded to in the preceding pages refer to establishments classed for statistical purposes as manufactories. Besides the 42,751 hands accounted for in the tables, there are others

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actually engaged in manufacturing processes who are not included. These comprise persons working in their own homes or in establishments too small to be properly designated as manufactories. In the foregoing pages a manufactory has been considered to be an establishment using steam, or, when steam is not used, where five or more hands are usually employed. It is estimated that there are 6,560 males and 13,500 females who are thus excluded from classification. The males comprise tailors and shoemakers working in their own homes or in companies of less than five; and wheelwrights, blacksmiths, saddlers, and other workers of the same type, whose establishments are principally repairing shops, such as are found in every village of the Colony. The females are mainly seamstresses, milliners, and dressmakers; and from their numbers it will be seen that the women working outside the factories are a far more important body than the hands employed within those establishments.

The total number of persons engaged in the various manufacturing processes may, therefore, be set down at 62,811, and the value of their production at £7,626,750, which includes £900,000, the value of the work of the hands not included in the returns of factories. These are the figures which will be quoted in the remaining tables of this chapter.

Importation of Labour.

Since the cessation of assisted immigration by the State there has been very little labour imported by the capitalists and manufacturers of the Colony; in fact, almost all the artisans and labourers who have arrived here within the last few years have been those who have left the other Australasian Colonies in the hope of improving their position in New South Wales. The question of the importation of labour has not been largely dealt with by legislation in this Colony. The chief enactment on the subject is the Agreements Validating Act, 39 Vic. No. 29, which provides that agreements made in any place beyond the Colony for a period of service not exceeding two years shall be as binding and effectual as though they had been entered into within the Colony, provided that the contract or agreement shall have been made and subscribed to in the presence of some officer duly authorised in that behalf by the Governor and Executive Council of New South Wales.

Wages

In New South Wales, as in most other Australian Colonies, the rapid settlement of the country created a demand for labour of all kinds which could not be satisfied except by a constant accession of labourers from other countries. This demand, which was continuous for many years, resulted in the establishment of a rate of wages much higher than is ordinarily found in older lands. During 1892, however,

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with the depression in trade there came a partial reduction in wages, and in 1893 and 1894 this became general. The following are the average weekly wages in various trades during 1894. The average rates of representative trades from the year 1821 to the present time will be found in the preceding chapter of this work dealing with the industrial history of the Colony. In the numerous instances in which work is done and paid for as piecework, weekly rates of wages have been calculated on the assumption that a week is equal to forty-eight hours' work, and the rates quoted show, therefore, the amount of wages which would be earned by workmen doing a full week's work.

Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.
I.—Persons engaged in treating Raw Material, the Product of Pastoral Pursuits.					
Boiling-down.					
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Foremen	2 5 0	2 0 0	Tallowmen	2 0 0	1 18 0
Offal and bone men	2 2 0	1 5 0	Oilmakers	2 0 0	1 16 0
Bone-dust makers	2 0 0	1 16 0			
Tanneries.					
Foremen	4 10 0	2 10 0	Tanners	2 5 0	1 10 0
Fleshers	2 2 0	1 16 0	Rollermen	3 0 0	1 0 0
Curriers	2 15 0	2 0 0	Yardmen	2 5 0	1 10 0
Picklers	2 8 0	1 10 0	Limemen	2 5 0	1 10 0
Beamsmen	3 0 0	1 10 0			
Wool-washing.					
Foremen	7 0 0	2 5 0	Wooldriers	2 2 0	1 10 0
Woolsorters	2 8 0	2 0 0	Woolsoakers	2 0 0	1 10 0
Woolpullers	2 8 0	2 0 0	Skinmen	1 16 0	1 16 0
Woolwashers	2 5 2	1 16 0	Bearers and Drivers	1 16 0	1 13 0
Woolpackers	2 10 0	2 0 0			

Note.—In nearly every instance this class of work is done by piecework, and the weekly earnings given represent the amounts earned on those lines.

II.—Persons engaged in Trades connected with Food and Drink, or the preparation thereof.

Aerated Waters.					
Foremen	5 0 0	2 10 0	Washers	1 15 0	0 10 0
Makers	5 0 0	2 0 0	Wirers	1 12 6	0 15 0
Packers	2 10 0	1 10 0	Corkers	1 15 0	0 15 0
Bottlers	2 0 0	1 0 0	Labellers	0 12 0	0 8 0
Bread, Biscuits, and Confectionery.					
Foremen	4 0 0	2 0 0	Bakers	2 15 0	1 5 0
Confectioners, Factory hands—			Forewomen	1 13 0	0 16 0
			Biscuit-bakers	2 10 0	1 10 0
Males	2 10 0	1 10 0	Boys	1 0 0	0 8 0
Females	0 15 0	0 8 0	Girls	0 10 0	0 8 0
Breweries.					
Foremen	4 0 0	2 12 6	Bottlers	2 12 6	0 10 0
Topmen	2 10 0	1 15 0	Coopers	4 0 0	2 14 0
Cellarmen	2 10 0	2 0 0	Draymen	2 10 0	2 0 0
Cask-washers	2 10 0	2 0 0	Boys	0 18 0	0 7 6
Brewery hands	2 2 0	1 10 0			

Note.—Head brewers at large breweries command salaries ranging from £250 to £800 per annum.

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II.—PERSONS ENGAGED IN TRADES CONNECTED WITH FOOD AND DRINK, OR THE PREPARATION THEREOF—*continued.*

Butter Factories and Creameries.

Occupation.	Maximum. £ s. d.	Minimum. £ s. d.	Occupation.	Maximum. £ s. d.	Minimum. £ s. d.
Experts at milk-testing	4 0 0	2 5 0	Assistants	2 0 0	1 2 6
Butter-makers	3 0 0	2 0 0	Boys	1 0 0	0 10 0

Condiments.

Foremen	4 0 0	2 10 0	Labellers and packers	0 17 6	0 7 0
Mill hands and journeymen	3 0 0	1 15 0	Grinders (boys)	1 0 0	0 10 0
Storemen	3 5 0	1 5 0	Girls	0 10 0	0 5 0
Forewomen	1 7 6	1 0 0			

Flour and Maize Meal.

Millers	3 10 0	3 0 0	Smutters and oilmen	2 0 0	1 16 0
Samplers	2 5 0	2 2 0	Packers	1 16 0	1 16 0
Slievemen	2 2 6	2 0 0	Purifier men	1 16 0	1 16 0
Stackers	2 0 0	1 16 0			

NOTE.—In the smaller mills the proprietor usually acts as foreman; in the larger mills the salary of the foreman miller is a matter of arrangement with the owners, and no standard rate can be given.

Ice and Refrigerating.

Foremen	5 10 0	2 5 0	Journeymen	2 5 0	2 0 0

Jam and Fruit Canning.

Foremen	3 10 0	2 10 0	Packers	1 13 6	0 10 0
Jam-boilers	2 5 0	1 10 0	Case-makers	2 5 0	1 5 0
Firemen	1 15 0	1 10 0	Boys	0 17 6	0 5 0
Solderers and tinmakers	2 10 0	2 2 0	Women and girls	1 5 0	0 10 0
Labellers	0 17 6	0 8 0			

Meat Preserving.

Extract-makers	3 12 0	2 9 0	Butchers	3 0 0	2 2 0
Tallow-makers	3 10 0	2 18 0	Tinsmiths and solderers	3 10 0	2 2 0
Salters	2 5 0	1 19 0	Boys	1 0 0	0 10 0
Smallgoods man	2 10 0	2 2 0			

NOTE.—Most of the men employed in meat-preserving works are paid by results, and the rates of wages quoted represent the amounts usually earned per week. The week, in some cases, is reckoned as seven days.

Sugar Mills.

Managers	Salaried officers.		Foremen labourers	2 10 0	1 15 0
Cane inspectors			Labourers	1 15 0	1 10 0
Chemists for sugar analysis			Steamer hands	3 0 0	1 15 0
Engineers and fitters	4 10 0	3 0 0	Cane-throwers	2 10 0	2 8 0
Foremen mechanics	4 0 0	3 12 0	Cane-cutters	3 10 0	2 0 0
Mechanics	4 0 0	2 8 0	Bag-sewers	1 15 0	1 10 0
Pan boilers	3 5 0	3 5 0			

NOTE.—The rates of wages quoted are those paid by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Limited. All employés on daily wages are provided with board and lodging, the estimated value of which is included in the wages here quoted. The regular hours of working are ten per day, with the exception of mechanics and a few other employés, who work eight hours a day.

Vinegar Works.

Manufacturers	3 0 0	3 0 0	Bottlers and labellers	1 0 0	0 10 0

Yeast Works.

Makers	2 10 0	2 0 0

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Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.

III.—Persons engaged in the Manufacture of Clothing and Textile Fabrics.

Boots and Shoes.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Foremen	3 10 0	2 10 0	Fitters	2 0 0	0 10 0
Machine operators	3 10 0	2 5 0	Tiers-off	0 12 6	0 4 0
Clickers	3 0 0	1 10 0	Finishers	3 0 0	1 10 0
Assistant clickers	1 10 0	0 12 0	Packers	3 5 0	1 15 0
Rough-stuff cutters and pressmen	2 15 0	1 15 0	Repairers	2 0 0	1 5 0
Makers	3 0 0	1 10 0	Female machinists	1 12 6	0 15 0
Blockers	2 5 0	1 0 0	,, (apprentices)	1 0 0	0 4 0
			Boys	0 12 6	0 4 0

Clothing.

Cutters	3 10 0	2 10 0	Machinists	1 10 0	0 15 0
Foremen	6 0 0	3 0 0	Trimmers	3 5 0	2 0 0
Coat-hands, Males	3 10 0	1 10 0	Button-hole workers	2 0 0	1 0 0
,, Females	1 15 0	0 15 0	Folding hands	4 0 0	1 8 0
Trousers hands, Males	3 0 0	2 10 0	Pressers	5 0 0	2 0 0
,, Females	1 2 6	0 15 0	Examiners	3 0 0	3 0 0
Vest-hands, Males	2 8 0	2 0 0	Boys	1 0 0	0 5 0
,, Females	1 2 6	0 15 0			

Note.—Most persons engaged in the tailoring trade are paid by piecework, and a considerable proportion of the work, both for clothing factories and shops, is done by the employés at their own homes. In such cases it is often difficult to obtain a reliable statement of actual weekly earnings, and the rates quoted are, therefore, those paid per week to employés constantly at work.

Furriers.

Furriers	2 12 0	2 10 0	Females	1 0 0	0 10 6
Forewomen	1 5 0	1 0 0	Boys	0 7 6	0 7 6

Hats and Caps.

Journeymen	3 0 0	2 0 0	Girls	1 10 0	0 10 0
Trimmers	1 5 0	0 10 0			

Note.—The wages quoted must be taken as approximate, the number of people employed at this industry being small and the work chiefly piecework.

Oilskin and Waterproof Clothing.

Foremen	2 10 0	2 0 0	Oilers	2 0 0	1 10 0
Cutters	2 5 0	1 15 0	Machinists	1 2 6	0 15 0

Note.—The proprietors of the few establishments devoted to this industry generally act as foremen, and in some cases as cutters.

Shirtmaking.

Shirt-cutters	5 0 0	3 0 0	Machinists	1 5 0	0 15 0
Forewomen	1 15 0	1 5 0	Button-hole workers	0 18 0	0 15 0
Fitters	1 0 0	0 10 0	Finishers	0 12 0	0 8 0
Blousers	1 0 0	0 10 0			

Note.—Shirt-making is generally carried on by the employés at their own homes, and as payment is made by results, the weekly earnings are in some cases below the figures quoted.

Dressmaking, Underclothing, and Millinery.

Forewomen (dressmakers)	6 10 0	1 10 0	Machinists	1 10 0	0 14 0
Tailors	2 10 0	2 0 0	Forewomen (milliners)	3 0 0	2 0 0
Tailoresses	1 15 0	0 10 0	Milliners	1 10 0	0 15 0
Bodice hands	1 10 0	0 14 0	Improvers	0 12 6	0 7 6
General dressmakers	1 10 0	0 14 0	Saleswomen	3 10 0	0 15 0

Note.—The rates quoted are those paid by large establishments. The wages paid or amount earned per week in smaller establishments vary considerably, as payment is by piecework.

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Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
III.—Persons engaged in the Manufacture of Clothing and Textile Fabrics—*continued.*					
Woollen Mills.					
Foremen	3 10 0	2 15 0	Warpers	1 15 0	1 0 0
Carders	2 10 0	2 2 0	Wool-scourers	1 16 0	1 16 0
Loom-tuners	3 0 0	2 5 0	Pressmen	2 0 0	1 15 0
Wool-sorters	2 5 0	2 5 0	Weavers (females)	1 10 0	0 15 0
Finishers	2 0 0	1 10 0	Feeders	0 12 0	0 12 0
Dyers	3 0 0	1 5 0	Burlers and pickers	0 17 6	0 17 6
Spinners	2 15 0	1 10 0	Boys and girls	0 18 0	0 7 0
Millmen	2 0 0	2 0 0			
IV.—Persons Engaged in Connection with Building Materials, etc.					
Asphalting and Tar-paving.					
Asphalters	2 2 0	1 16 0	Boys	1 0 0	0 7 0
Woodblockers	3 0 0	1 10 0			
Brickworks.					
Foremen	4 0 0	2 8 0	Pressers	2 8 0	1 15 0
Clay-diggers and pitmen	2 8 0	1 10 0	Burners	3 10 0	2 8 0
Panmen and grinders	2 10 0	2 0 0	Loaders-out	2 15 0	2 0 0
Setters	2 8 0	2 0 0	Stackers	2 10 0	2 0 0
Brickmakers and moulders	2 15 0	2 0 0	Carters	2 5 0	1 10 0

Note.—The wages quoted are those for full time. Owing to the depressed condition of the building trades during 1894, it has been the exception for those engaged in brickworks to work more than half-time.

Cement.					
Millers	3 10 0	3 0 0	Kiln-fillers	2 5 0	2 0 0
Burners	2 12 0	2 0 0	Labourers	2 0 0	1 10 0

Note.—Most of the work is done by contract, the men being paid at per ton of cement ground. The figures quoted represent the average weekly earnings.

Joinery, Wood-turning, and Carving.					
Foremen	3 12 0	3 0 0	Carvers	3 0 0	1 10 0
Joiners	3 5 0	2 8 0	Apprentices	1 5 0	0 7 0
Turners	2 14 0	1 10 0			
Lime Works.					
Foremen	3 0 0	3 0 0	Lime-drawers	2 8 0	2 0 0
Quarrymen	2 5 0	2 2 0	Burners	2 8 0	2 0 0
Crane-drivers	2 0 0	1 16 0			
Modelling, Patterns, and Cement and Plaster Decorations.					
Modellers	3 0 0	3 0 0	Casters	1 0 0	0 10 0
Pressers	2 8 0	1 10 0			

Note.—The works, which are small, are generally carried on by the proprietor, assisted by a few youths as pressers and casters.

Monumental and Marble Masons.					
Foremen	3 10 0	2 10 0	Bluestone masons	2 10 0	2 0 0
Sculptors	3 0 0	2 10 0	Polishers	2 8 0	1 10 0
Letter cutters and carvers	3 0 0	2 8 0	Fixers	2 8 0	1 5 0
Marble masons	2 10 0	2 0 0			
Paint and Varnish.					
Chemists	6 0 0	6 0 0	Manufacturers	5 16 0	2 10 0
Foremen	2 10 0	2 10 0	Labourers	1 16 0	1 10 0
Potteries.					
Foremen	3 10 0	2 8 0	Burners	3 0 0	2 0 0
Throwers	3 0 0	2 0 0	Clay-getters	2 8 0	1 10 0
Pipe-makers	3 0 0	2 0 0			

Note.—As most potteries have not been working full time, the actual wages received by the employés have been lower than those here quoted.

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Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.

IV.—Persons Engaged in Connection with Building Materials, etc.—*continued.*

Saw Mills.

Foremen	4 0 0	2 10 0	Measurers	2 14 0	2 2 0
Saw-sharpeners	3 0 0	2 0 0	Tailers-out	2 0 0	1 10 0
Benchers	3 0 0	2 0 0	Labourers	1 16 0	1 10 0
Benchers' assistants	2 10 0	1 0 0	Draymen	2 10 0	1 10 0
Sawyers	3 5 0	1 15 0			

Note.—In most establishments full time has not been worked during 1894.

Quarrying and Stone Crushing.

Foremen	3 0 0	3 0 0	Stone-breakers	2 2 0	2 2 0
Quarrymen	2 5 0	2 2 0	Stone-feeders	2 0 0	1 16 0
Masons	2 0 0	1 16 0			

Note.—Owing to the depressed state of the quarrying industry, workmen can be obtained at lower rates of wages than those here quoted.

I (*a*), II (*a*), III (*a*), and IV (*a*).—Miscellaneous Trades.

Note.—In order to avoid unnecessary repetition, artisans and others employed in the various factories or works given under Classes I, II, III, and IV, and who are not identified with any one particular industry, are included under this heading.

Engine-drivers	3 5 0	1 16 0	Tinsmiths	2 17 0	2 0 0
Firemen	3 0 0	2 0 0	Painters	3 0 0	1 16 0
Fitters	3 5 0	2 14 0	Slaters	2 14 0	2 8 0
Machinists	3 5 0	0 14 0	Plumbers	2 14 0	2 8 0
Foremen carpenters	4 0 0	3 6 0	Blacksmiths	3 5 0	2 0 0
Carpenters and joiners	3 5 0	2 8 0	Brassfinishers	3 5 0	2 0 0
Sawyers	2 14 0	2 8 0	Watchmen	2 0 0	1 10 0
Foremen bricklayers	4 0 0	4 0 0	Time-keepers	2 2 0	1 10 0
Bricklayers	3 0 0	2 14 0	Foremen labourers	3 12 0	2 8 0
Foremen masons	4 0 0	4 0 0	General labourers	2 2 0	1 10 0
Masons	3 0 0	2 8 0	Carters	2 10 0	1 10 0
Plasterers	2 14 0	2 8 0	Apprentices	1 16 0	0 5 0
Polishers	2 14 0	2 8 0	Boys	1 16 0	0 7 0

Note.—In all Government contracts a minimum rate of wages to be paid is set out, forty-eight hours being considered as a week's work. On it being proved that any contractor, or, in the event of any portion of the work being sub-let, any sub-contractor, is paying a lower rate than has been set out, the Minister has the power to cancel the contract. The minimum rates to be paid are fixed according to the locality and other circumstances affecting each particular contract. No standard rates for general use have been laid down.

V.—Persons engaged in Engineering, Metal Works, etc.

Foremen	7 4 0	3 0 0	Wheelwrights	3 0 0	2 0 0
Engineers and draftsmen	3 5 0	2 6 0	Bolt-screwers	2 8 0	2 6 0
Machinists	3 5 0	2 11 0	Stove-fitters	3 0 0	2 8 0
Turners and fitters	2 16 0	2 12 0	Galvanisers	3 5 0	2 0 0
Blacksmiths	3 5 0	1 10 0	Wire-workers	2 10 0	2 8 0
Strikers	2 1 0	1 12 0	Cutlers and grinders	2 2 0	1 10 0
Ironmoulders	3 5 0	2 0 0	Japanners	2 5 0	2 5 0
Irondressers	1 18 0	1 18 0	Engine-drivers	3 0 0	1 16 0
Furnacemen	3 1 0	2 16 0	Firemen	2 10 0	2 0 0
Pattern-makers	3 1 0	2 5 0	Bricklayers	3 1 0	2 14 0
Boiler-makers	3 1 0	2 8 0	Carpenters	3 5 0	2 15 0
Riveters	3 0 0	2 10 0	Labourers	2 8 0	1 10 0
Coppersmiths	3 5 0	2 8 0	Carters	3 0 0	1 10 0
Brassmoulders	3 5 0	2 12 0	Storekeepers	3 8 0	1 13 0
Brassfinishers	3 5 0	2 8 0	Time-keepers	2 6 0	1 13 0
Tinsmiths	2 17 0	2 0 0	Apprentices	1 10 0	0 2 0
Plumbers and gasfitters	3 1 0	2 8 0	Boys	0 15 0	0 5 0
Painters	3 0 0	1 16 0			

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Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
VI.—Persons engaged in Ship-building, Repairing, etc.					
Ship-building, Docks, etc.					
Foremen	7 0 0	3 0 0	Bolt-screwers	2 8 0	2 5 0
Shipwrights	3 12 0	2 8 0	Ship-joiners	3 0 0	2 8 0
Boiler-makers and riveters	3 1 0	2 5 0	Marine opticians	3 0 0	2 0 0
Pattern-makers	3 1 0	2 5 0	Ship's compasses, sextants, and barometer repairers	3 0 0	2 0 0
Riggers and caulkers	3 0 0	2 5 0			
Sails and Tarpaulins.					
Foremen	3 0 0	2 0 0	Forewomen	1 10 0	1 0 0
Journeymen	2 16 0	1 10 0	Machinists (females)	1 10 0	0 5 0
Machinists (males)	2 10 0	1 10 0	Apprentices (males)	1 0 0	0 7 0
VII.—Persons engaged in the Manufacture of Furniture, Bedding, etc.					
Foremen	5 0 0	3 5 0	Gilders	2 12 0	1 7 0
Machinists	2 17 0	2 12 0	Fitters	1 16 0	1 0 0
Cabinet-makers	2 17 0	1 15 0	Girls	1 0 0	0 10 0
Polishers	2 15 0	2 8 0	Venetian-blind makers	2 10 0	2 10 0
Chair-makers	2 17 0	2 12 0	Venetian-blind painters	2 0 0	1 16 0
Chair-fitters	2 12 0	0 10 0	Billiard-table makers	2 14 0	2 14 0
Wood-carvers	3 0 0	2 10 0	Ivory turners	3 0 0	3 0 0
Wood-turners	3 0 0	2 10 0	Packers	2 15 0	2 5 0
Upholsterers	2 17 0	2 12 0	Improvers	2 0 0	0 10 0
Upholsteresses	1 7 6	1 0 0	Storemen	2 8 0	2 0 0
Seamstresses	1 5 0	1 0 0	Undertaker's hands	2 10 0	2 0 0
Hair and flock hands	2 12 0	1 15 0	Labourers	2 8 0	1 10 0
Mattrass-makers	2 15 0	1 10 0	Apprentices	1 12 0	0 10 0
Mount-cutters	3 0 0	1 16 0	Boys	1 12 0	0 8 0
Frame-makers	2 12 0	1 7 6			

Note.—The number of Chinese engaged in the manufacture of furniture in Sydney is not so large as formerly, the introduction of modern machinery enabling manufacturers to successfully compete with them. No reliable information is obtainable as to the wages paid in the Chinese shops, most of the work done there being piecework.

VIII.—Persons engaged in Printing, Lithographing Establishments, etc.

Readers	4 0 0	2 10 0	Lithographers—		
Readers' assistants	1 10 0	0 10 0	Foremen	5 0 0	3 10 0
Compositors, jobbing offices—			Journeymen	3 10 0	2 12 0
Foremen	5 0 0	3 10 0	Improvers	1 10 0	1 0 0
Journeymen	3 10 0	2 12 0	Apprentices	1 5 0	0 6 0
Apprentices	1 5 0	0 6 0	Artists and illuminators	8 0 0	3 0 0
Compositors, newspaper offices—			,, apprentices	1 5 0	0 7 6
Foremen	8 0 0	4 10 0	Rulers	3 10 0	2 12 0
Journeymen—			Folders	1 7 6	0 8 0
Morning papers	0 1 1	per 1,000 ems.	General hands	1 16 0	1 10 0
Evening papers	0 1 0		Bookbinders—		
Letter-press machinists—			Foremen	4 10 0	3 0 0
Foremen	5 0 0	3 0 0	Rulers	4 0 0	2 10 0
Journeymen	4 0 0	2 12 0	Binders	3 5 0	2 12 0
Improvers	2 6 0	1 0 0	Finishers	4 0 0	2 12 0
Apprentices	1 5 0	0 7 6	Booksewers (females)	1 10 0	0 10 0
Stereotypers—			Bookfolders ,,	1 7 6	0 6 0
Foremen	5 0 0	3 0 0	Apprentices	1 5 0	0 6 0
Journeymen	3 10 0	2 12 0	Rubber stamp makers	2 2 0	2 0 0
Electrotypers—			Paper boxes and bags—		
Foremen	3 10 0	3 0 0	Foremen	4 0 0	1 16 0
Journeymen	3 0 0	2 12 0	Forewomen	1 7 6	1 0 0
Engravers	6 10 0	3 0 0	Boys and girls	1 0 0	0 7 6

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Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
IX.—Persons engaged in the Manufacture of Vehicles, Saddlery, and Harness.					
Coach-building.					
Foremen	3 10 0	2 10 0	Trimmers	3 5 0	2 0 0
Carpenters	3 5 0	2 2 0	Painters	3 0 0	2 0 0
Bodymakers	3 0 0	2 0 0	Labourers	1 16 0	1 0 0
Wheelwrights	3 0 0	2 0 0	Improvers	1 16 0	0 5 0
Blacksmiths	3 0 0	2 0 0	Apprentices	1 10 0	0 5 0
Strikers	2 2 0	1 5 0	Boys	0 15 0	0 5 0
Vicemen	2 5 0	1 10 0			
Saddlery and Harness.					
Foremen	4 0 0	3 0 0	Bagmakers	2 14 0	2 8 0
Saddlemakers	3 0 0	2 0 0	General hands	2 10 0	1 10 0
Harness-makers	2 14 0	2 0 0	Female hands	1 10 0	1 0 0
Collarmakers	2 14 0	2 0 0	Apprentices	1 10 0	0 5 0
Strap hands	2 5 0	1 10 0			
X.—Persons engaged in the Production of Light, Fuel, Heat, etc.					
Electric Light Works.					
Foremen	4 0 0	3 10 0	Electricians	3 15 0	2 14 0
Engineers	5 0 0	2 0 0	Installing workmen	2 5 0	1 15 0
Gas Works.					
Foremen	6 0 0	3 10 0	Main-layers	2 15 0	1 19 0
Stokers and Firemen	2 18 0	2 7 0	Service-layers	2 15 0	1 19 0
Fitters	3 6 0	2 9 6	Lamplighters	1 12 0	1 12 0
Plumbers	2 15 0	2 15 0			
Kerosene Works.					
Foremen	5 0 0	3 0 0	Retortmen—drawers	2 8 0	2 2 0
Roadmen	3 0 0	2 2 0	,, ashmen	2 5 0	2 2 0
Boiler-makers	3 0 0	2 2 0	Refiners—stillmen	2 11 0	2 8 0
Pumpers	2 12 0	1 19 0	,, general hands	2 2 0	1 16 0
Miners	2 14 0	2 8 0			
Fuel.					
Foremen	2 10 0	2 0 0	Carters	2 10 0	1 10 0
Sawyers and yardmen	2 2 0	1 10 0	Boys	1 0 0	0 8 0
XI.—Persons engaged in Miscellaneous Trades.					
Basket-making.					
Basket-makers	2 0 0	1 16 0	Apprentices and boys	0 10 0	0 5 0
Assistants	1 0 0	0 10 0			
Box and Packing Case Making.					
Foremen	3 0 0	3 0 0	Engine-drivers	2 8 0	2 8 0
Boxmakers	2 8 0	2 5 0	Carters	2 5 0	2 0 0
Sawyers	3 0 0	2 5 0	Boys	1 10 0	0 6 0
Machinists	2 8 0	2 8 0			
Broom-making.					
Broom-makers	2 5 0	1 10 0	Sorters	0 15 0	0 8 0
Broom-sewers	2 0 0	1 5 0			
Brush-making.					
Male hands	2 15 0	1 15 0	Boys	1 0 0	0 6 0
Female hands	1 0 0	0 10 0			
Dye Works.					
Dyers	2 10 0	1 15 0	Pressers (women)	1 6 0	1 2 0
Pressers (men)	2 2 0	2 0 0	Feather curlers	1 0 0	1 4 0

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Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
XI.—Persons engaged in Miscellaneous Trades—*continued.*					
Explosives.					
Foremen	3 0 0	2 10 0	Cartridge fillers	2 5 0	1 3 0
Mixers	2 8 0	2 5 0			
Glass Bottle Works.					
Foremen	4 0 0	3 0 0	Glass-cutters	3 0 0	3 0 0
Glass-blowers	3 12 0	2 8 0	Boys	0 17 0	0 6 0
Ornamental Glass Works.					
Artists	3 0 0	3 0 0	Glaziers	2 10 0	2 0 0
Cutters	3 0 0	3 0 0	Polishers	2 8 0	2 0 0
Bevellers	3 0 0	2 5 0	Assistants	1 5 0	0 15 0
Hairdressing and Wig Making.					
Hairdressers	3 0 0	2 0 0	Apprentices	1 5 0	0 5 0
Wigmakers	3 10 0	2 10 0			
Mat-making.					
Foremen	2 0 0	2 0 0	Mat-makers (boys)	0 12 0	0 7 0
Mat-makers (adults)	1 10 0	1 10 0			
Photography.					
Operators	5 0 0	2 0 0	Finishers (girls)	1 5 0	0 10 0
Printers	3 12 0	1 5 0	Retouchers (males)	3 0 0	1 5 0
Assistants	2 0 0	0 5 0	do (females)	1 15 0	1 0 0
Rope Works.					
Foremen	4 10 0	4 0 0	Handspinners	1 16 0	1 13 0
Rope-layers	2 8 0	2 2 0	Machinists	1 10 0	0 18 0
Reelers	2 0 0	2 0 0	Jenny boys	0 15 0	0 10 0
Rubber Works.					
Journeymen	3 0 0	2 0 0	Boys	1 0 0	0 10 0
Soap and Candle Works.					
Foremen	4 10 0	2 5 0	Coopers	2 14 0	2 10 0
Stearine and Candle Makers	3 0 0	1 5 0	General hands	1 16 0	1 10 0
Moulders	1 7 0	0 12 0	Packers	1 7 0	0 10 0
Soap-boilers	5 0 0	2 8 0	Boys and Girls	1 5 0	0 4 0
Soap-boilers' assistants	2 2 0	1 10 0			
Tobacco Works.					
Foremen	5 0 0	3 0 0	Plug-coverers	1 15 0	0 15 0
Journeymen	2 15 0	1 10 0	Stemmers and strippers	1 5 0	0 10 0
General hands (males)	2 10 0	1 10 0	Packers	1 2 6	0 10 0
,, (females)	1 17 6	0 15 0	Box makers	3 0 0	1 10 0
Twisters	2 12 0	1 10 0	Machinists	2 12 0	2 8 0
Pressers	2 2 0	0 15 0			
Umbrella-making.					
Males	2 10 0	1 0 0	Females	1 10 0	0 15 0
Watch-making, Jewellery, etc.					
Foremen Watchmakers	5 0 0	2 10 0	Opticians (males)	2 15 0	2 10 0
,, Jewellers	7 0 0	1 15 0	,, (females)	2 2 0	1 19 0
Stone-setters	5 0 0	4 0 0	Polishers	2 0 0	1 5 0
Instrument-makers	4 10 0	3 12 0			

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Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.

XI.—Persons engaged in Miscellaneous Trades—*continued.*

Fire Brigade Employés (City).

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Foremen	3 10 0	3 10 0	Firemen	3 0 0	2 5 0
Engineers	3 8 0	3 8 0	Probationers	2 0 0	2 0 0

XI (*a*).—Persons engaged in Mining.

Coal-mines.

	Northern Mines.			Southern Mines.		
	per ton.			per ton.		
Miners	0 3 2	0 3 2	Miners	0 2 1	0 2 0	
	per day.			per day.		
Miners	0 11 6	0 9 0	Miners	0 8 6	0 8 6	
Overmen (underground)	0 13 6	0 12 0	Overmen (underground)	0 13 0	0 10 0	
Deputy overmen	0 9 6	0 8 0	Deputy overmen	0 9 6	0 8 6	
Shiftmen	0 9 6	0 9 0	Shiftmen	0 9 0	0 7 0	
Onsetters	0 8 3	0 5 6	Onsetters	0 9 6	0 7 0	
Banksmen	0 8 3	0 5 6	Banksmen	0 9 6	0 7 0	
Screenmen	0 8 3	0 7 0	Screenmen	0 7 0	0 6 6	
Mechanics	0 7 2	0 6 3	Mechanics	0 7 0	0 6 6	
Engineers	0 9 6	0 7 0	Engineers	0 9 6	0 7 0	
Engine-drivers	0 10 0	0 9 0	Engine-drivers	0 10 0	0 7 6	
Enginemen and firemen	0 7 0	0 5 0	Enginemen and firemen	0 8 0	0 7 0	
Screen-overmen	0 9 0	0 8 6	Screen-overmen	....	....	
Overmen (overground)	0 9 0	0 8 6	Overmen (overground)	....	....	
Locomotive-engine stokers	0 6 6	0 5 0	Locomotive-engine stokers	0 7 0	0 6 0	
Platelayers	0 7 6	0 6 3	Platelayers	0 8 0	0 6 6	
Furnacemen	0 8 0	0 7 6	Furnacemen	0 7 0	0 6 0	
Harness-makers	0 7 2	0 5 10	Harness-makers	0 8 6	0 6 6	
Packers	0 3 0	0 1 9	Packers	0 6 6	0 6 6	
Wheelers	0 7 0	0 2 8	Wheelers	0 7 0	0 3 3	
Water-bailers	0 7 0	0 3 7	Water-bailers	0 7 0	0 6 0	
Horse-drivers	0 7 9	0 3 6	Horse-drivers	0 7 6	0 6 6	
Stablemen	0 7 2	0 6 3	Stablemen	0 8 0	0 5 0	
Labourers	0 8 6	0 5 10	Labourers	0 7 0	0 5 6	
Flatters	0 6 0	0 2 8	Flatters	0 7 6	0 3 9	
Trappers	0 3 3	0 2 3	Trappers	0 4 0	0 3 6	
Boys	0 3 6	0 2 0	Boys	0 3 0	0 2 6	

Note.—The Union rules fix 43½ hours as the maximum working hours per week for miners, and 48 hours for those engaged in mechanical trades about the mines. The actual time worked during 1894 did not average more than 32 hours for miners and 45 hours for mechanical trades.

Silver-mines, Broken Hill District.

	per day.			per day.	
Mechanics and surface hands—			Mechanics and surface Hands—*continued.*		
Engineers	0 10 6	0 9 0	Labourers	0 7 6	0 7 6
Masons and bricklayers	0 10 6	0 9 0	Boys	0 5 0	0 2 6
Carpenters	0 10 6	0 9 0	Tappers	0 9 0	0 9 0
Blacksmiths	0 10 6	0 8 4	Slag-wheelers	0 8 4	0 8 4
Blacksmiths' strikers	0 7 6	0 6 0	Feeders	0 9 0	0 9 0
Engine-drivers, stationary	0 9 0	0 9 0	Charge-wheelers	0 8 4	0 8 4
,, holding	0 10 0	0 9 0	Underground Hands—		
Firemen	0 8 4	0 8 4	Miners	0 9 0	0 9 0
Firemens' assistants	0 7 6	0 7 6	Brace and platmen	0 8 4	0 8 4
Boilermakers	0 10 6	0 9 0	Truckers	0 7 6	0 7 6
Tinsmiths	0 10 0	0 9 0	Ore-dressing Hands—		
Horse-drivers (exclusive of time occupied in cleaning and harnessing)	0 8 4	0 8 0	Shift washers	0 9 0	0 9 0
			Engine-drivers, stationary	0 9 0	0 9 0

Note.—Wages are calculated at per day of eight hours. All time worked over eight hours per day is paid for at the rate of time and quarter (Sundays not excepted).

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Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.

XI (b).—Persons Engaged on Railways and Tramways.

Salaried Staff.

	per annum. £	£		per annum. £	£
Station-masters	380	150	Operators	200	60
Officers-in-charge	209	130	Clerks	470	125
Night Officers	180	120	Junior Clerks	120	30

Wages Staff.

	per day. £ s. d.	£ s. d.		per day. £ s. d.	£ s. d
Locomotive Engine-drivers	0 15 0	0 11 0	Carriage and Waggon Examiners	0 13 0	0 7 6
,, Firemen	0 10 0	0 8 0	Carpenters	0 13 0	0 7 0
,, Cleaners	0 10 0	0 4 0	Painters	0 12 0	0 8 0
Fitters	0 15 0	0 8 0	Stationary Engine-drivers	0 10 6	0 7 6
Turners	0 12 8	0 8 0	Fuelmen	0 9 0	0 6 0
Machinists	0 12 0	0 7 6	Oilers	0 8 0	0 4 0
Boiler-makers	0 14 0	0 8 0	Pumpers	0 10 0	0 5 6
Boiler-makers' Assistants	0 8 6	0 7 0	Guards	0 12 0	0 8 6
Moulders	0 14 0	0 8 0	Assistant Guards	0 8 6	0 8 6
Blacksmiths	0 16 0	0 8 0	Porters	0 10 0	0 6 0
Strikers	0 8 2	0 6 6	Junior Porters	0 5 0	0 2 6
Tinsmiths	0 11 8	0 9 6	Signalmen	0 11 6	0 7 0
Pattern-makers	0 15 0	0 10 0	Shunters	0 11 0	0 7 0
Gasfitters	0 12 0	0 6 6	Gangers	0 12 0	0 8 6
Carriage and Waggon Builders	0 14 0	0 8 0	Fettlers and Labourers	0 9 6	0 6 6

Note.—In consequence of the continued contraction of traffic during 1894, a considerable proportion of the men employed in the railway workshops were placed on short time, and for several months during the year only worked five and five and a half days per week.

XI (c).—Persons Engaged in Shipping.

	per month.							per month.						
First Officers (Steamers)	15	0	0	10	0	0	Fourth Engineers	11	0	0	10	10	0
,, (Sailing Vessels)	7	10	0	6	10	0	Firemen	7	0	0	7	0	0
Second Officers (Steamers)	12	0	0	9	0	0	Boatswains	6	0	0	6	0	0
,, (Sailing Vessels)	5	0	0	4	0	0	Seamen (Steamers)	5	0	0	5	0	0
Third Officers (Steamers)	10	0	0	8	0	0	,, (Sailing Vessels)	4	10	0	3	10	0
,, (Sailing Vessels)	3	10	0	3	0	0	Trimmers	5	0	0	5	0	0
Chief Engineers	22	0	0	18	0	0	Sea Cooks	11	0	0	5	0	0
Second Engineers	16	0	0	14	10	0	Chief Stewards	12	0	0	10	0	0
Third Engineers	13	10	0	12	10	0	Assistant Stewards	5	0	0	3	0	0
	per hour.							per hour.					
Wharf Labourers and Lumpers	0	1	0	0	1	0	Wharf Labourers and Lumpers (Overtime)	0	1	6	0	1	6
								per week.					
Wharf Labourers and Lumpers (constant hands)								2	5	0	2	2	0

Note.—The rates quoted are those paid by owners belonging to the New South Wales Shipowners' Association. Some owners of small steamers pay lower rates, and on ships trading with the islands and foreign parts the monthly rates paid to seamen range from £3 15s. to £2 15s.

XI (d).—Persons engaged in other Occupations.

Coaching.

	per week.							per week.						
Carters and Trollymen	2	2	0	1	16	0	Grooms	1	15	0	1	5	0
Drivers (Licensed)	2	5	0	1	10	0	Omnibus Drivers	2	2	0	1	16	0
Farriers	2	2	0	2	2	0	Omnibus conductors	1	0	0	0	15	0

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Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Occupation.	Maximum.	Minimum

XI (*d*).—Persons Engaged in Other Occupations—*continued.*

Attendance and Service.

	per week.			per week.	
Males—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	**Females—**	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Barmen	1 10 0	0 15 0	Barmaids	1 5 0	0 15 0
Butlers	1 10 0	0 15 0	Cooks	1 0 0	0 12 0
Coachmen	1 5 0	0 15 0	General Servants	0 15 0	0 8 0
Cooks	4 0 0	0 15 0	House and Parlour Maids	0 12 0	0 8 0
Dairymen	1 0 0	0 12 0	Laundresses	1 0 0	0 12 0
Gardeners	1 10 0	0 15 0	Nursemaids	0 10 0	0 5 0
Gardeners' Labourers	0 15 0	0 10 0	Waitresses	0 16 0	0 10 0
Scullerymen	0 15 0	0 8 0			
Waiters	1 5 0	0 15 0			

Note.—Board and lodging is provided in addition to the wages quoted.

Shop Assistants.

	per week.			per week.	
Males—			**Females—**		
Butchers	3 10 0	2 0 0	Milliners	3 5 0	0 15 0
Drapers	4 0 0	1 10 0	Drapers	3 0 0	0 15 0
Grocers	3 10 0	1 10 0	General	2 0 0	0 12 6
Ironmongers	3 10 0	1 10 0	Girls	0 10 0	0 5 0
General	2 10 0	1 0 0			
Boys	0 10 0	0 7 0			

Note.—At the Abattoirs butchers are paid by piecework, and when in full employment are able to earn over £7 per week, out of which they have each to pay an assistant.

In some shops, assistants (male and female) are, in addition to the wages here quoted, provided with the midday meal, and, when working late, with tea.

Municipal Employés (City).

Overseers	4 10 0	2 14 0	Carters	3 9 0	3 9 0
Timekeepers	3 15 0	2 14 0	Regulators of Street Traffic	2 14 0	2 14 0
Engineers	3 12 0	3 12 0	Inspectors of Wood-blocking	3 0 0	3 0 0
Engine-drivers	3 6 0	3 6 0	House Inspectors	2 14 0	2 14 0
Firemen	2 2 0	2 2 0	Park Rangers	2 14 0	2 8 0
Masons	3 0 0	3 0 0	Watchmen	2 8 0	2 2 0
Plumbers	3 0 0	3 0 0	Bailiffs	3 0 0	3 0 0
Blacksmiths	3 12 0	2 8 0	Messengers	2 8 0	2 8 0
Carpenters	3 9 0	3 0 0	Tar-pavers and Asphalters	2 8 0	2 2 0
Gangers	3 6 0	2 14 0	Street Cleaners	2 2 0	2 2 0
Labourers	2 2 0	2 2 0			

XI (*e*).—Persons engaged in Agricultural and Pastoral Pursuits.

Boundary Riders	1 0 0	0 15 0	Farm Labourers	0 15 0	0 10 0
Bush Carpenters	1 10 0	0 15 0	Milkers	0 18 0	0 10 0
Cooks (Station)	2 0 0	1 0 0			
	per 100 sheep.				
Shearers	1 0 0	0 17 6			
	per annum.			per annum.	
	£	£		£	£
Married Couples (wife, cook)	70	50	Stockmen	70	50
" (husband, cook)	80	60	Vignerons	70	60

Note.—Except in the case of shearers, board and lodging, or rations, are provided in addition to the rates quoted.

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Trade Unions.

The subject of Trade Unionism has been dealt with by legislation in only one instance in this Colony—the Trade Union Act of 1881. This measure enacts that the purposes of any trade union shall not be deemed to be unlawful, so as to render its members liable to criminal prosecution for conspiracy or otherwise, merely because they are in restraint of trade; nor for such a reason shall any agreement or trust be rendered void or voidable. It is declared that nothing in the Act shall enable any Court to entertain any legal proceeding instituted with the object of directly enforcing or recovering damages for the breach of agreements between the members of a trade union, concerning the conditions upon which they shall transact business, employ, or be employed, or for the payment of subscriptions or penalties to the union, or for application of the funds to certain specified purposes; but at the same time the Act is not to be deemed to make such agreements unlawful. Neither the Friendly Societies Act nor the Companies Act is to apply to trade unions, nor can the unions be registered under either of those Acts. Provision is made, however, for the registration of trade unions under the present Act, provided always that if one of the purposes of such trade union be unlawful the registration shall be void. The Registrar of Friendly Societies is appointed Registrar of Trade Unions, and provisions are made for the appointment of trustees, treasurers, etc., for the establishment of rules, the preparation of annual returns, dissolution or amalgamation, change of name, and other matters. The term "Trade Union" is defined to mean "any combination, whether temporary or permanent, for regulating the relations between workmen and employers, or between workmen and workmen, or between employer and employers, for imposing restrictive conditions on the conduct of any trade or business, whether such combination would or would not, if this Act had not been passed, have been deemed to have been an unlawful combination by reason of some one or more of its purposes being in restraint of trade." Few of the trade unions have complied with the provisions of the Act relative to returns; consequently particulars in regard to their membership cannot be given with any accuracy.

No union for the purpose of regulating the mutual relations of workmen and employers has so far been registered. The unions have in every case been established for the promotion of the interests of one class or the other. Under the provisions of the Act there have been 162 unions registered, of which 8 were societies promoted by employers and 154 by workmen. The registration of two unions of the former class has been withdrawn, and 20 employés' unions have been dissolved according to law, and some 47 others appear to have collapsed, though no intimation as to their cessation of operations has been received by the

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Registrar. The following is a classification of the Trade Unions now in operation :—

Shipping	11
Railway and road construction and general labour	7
Mining and kindred trades	12
Roads and railway traffic	9
Building construction	12
Engineering, etc.	7
Food, drink, and clothing trades	11
Printing trades	6
Miscellaneous trades	12
Total Unions of Employés	87
Unions of Employers	5
Total Unions remaining under the Act	92

Co-operative Societies

Part V of the Friendly Societies Act of 1873 deals with the registration of Co-operative Trading and Industrial Societies. It provides that "any number of persons, not being less than seven, may establish a society under this Act for the purpose of carrying on any labour, trade, or handicraft, whether wholesale or retail, except the business of banking, which the members of such society voluntarily unite to carry on or exercise, and of applying the profits to any lawful purposes; and the buying and selling of land, and the working of mines and quarries, shall be deemed to be a trade within the meaning of this section." The Act further requires the word "Limited" to be the last word in the name of every society registered, and limits the interest to be held or claimed by any member in any society to the sum of £200.

The provisions of the Act relating to Co-operative Societies have been made use of by the public to a very limited extent. Sixty-two societies have been registered since the Act came into force, but of these there were not more than nineteen in existence in the middle of 1895. The balance sheets of three out of these nineteen societies are not available; while from those of the remaining sixteen societies, published at various dates between September 30, 1894, and June 30, 1895, and extending over periods of three, six, and twelve months, it appears that these societies had altogether a paid-up capital of £16,731, with reserve and contingency funds amounting to £17,118, and balances at the credit of profit and loss accounts of £5,059. Their liabilities

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amounted to £8,737, viz., bills payable, bank overdrafts, and sundry creditors, £6,634, and other liabilities, £2,103; while their assets were given as £47,645, viz., stock, £23,597, and other assets, £24,048. The sixteen societies had, therefore, a total excess of assets over liabilities of £38,908.

Trades Conciliation and Arbitration.

After the termination of the maritime strike of 1890 a Royal Commission was appointed for the purpose of inquiring into the causes and means for prevention of industrial disputes. The introduction of a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Council of Conciliation and Arbitration into Parliament early in 1892 was one of the results of this Commission. The bill became law, and was to continue in force for four years from March 31, 1892. Under it two Councils were established—a Council of Arbitration, consisting of three, and a Council of Conciliation, consisting of eighteen members. One of the former and nine of the latter were elected by a majority of the organisations representing the interests of the employers, and a similar number by a majority of the organisations representing the employés. The President of the Council of Arbitration was appointed by the Governor and Executive Council on the recommendation of the other two members of the Council. The regulations under the Act were carried out by an officer called the Clerk of Awards. From the time the two Councils were appointed to the end of 1894 only one case of conciliation and one of arbitration were dealt with by them. Negotiations were opened in a large number of other cases, but without success. The principle of the Act being a purely voluntary one, the Councils had no power to bring either party to a dispute before the industrial tribunal. Parliament having refused to vote supplies for the continuance of the Councils during 1895, they came to an end on December 31, 1894. The Act itself will, however, remain in force until March 31, 1896.

In the early part of 1895 the Minister for Public Instruction was created Minister for Labour and Industry, and took over the Labour Bureau.

PRODUCTION.

In other chapters of this work details have been given of the various producing industries, so that it will not be necessary to reproduce them here. It will be interesting, however, to group these industries together in one table in order that some idea may be given of their respective importance. From the total obtained by adding together the production of the various industries there must be deducted something to allow for products twice included, first as the output of one class of industry, and secondly as the raw material of a more advanced industry. Under

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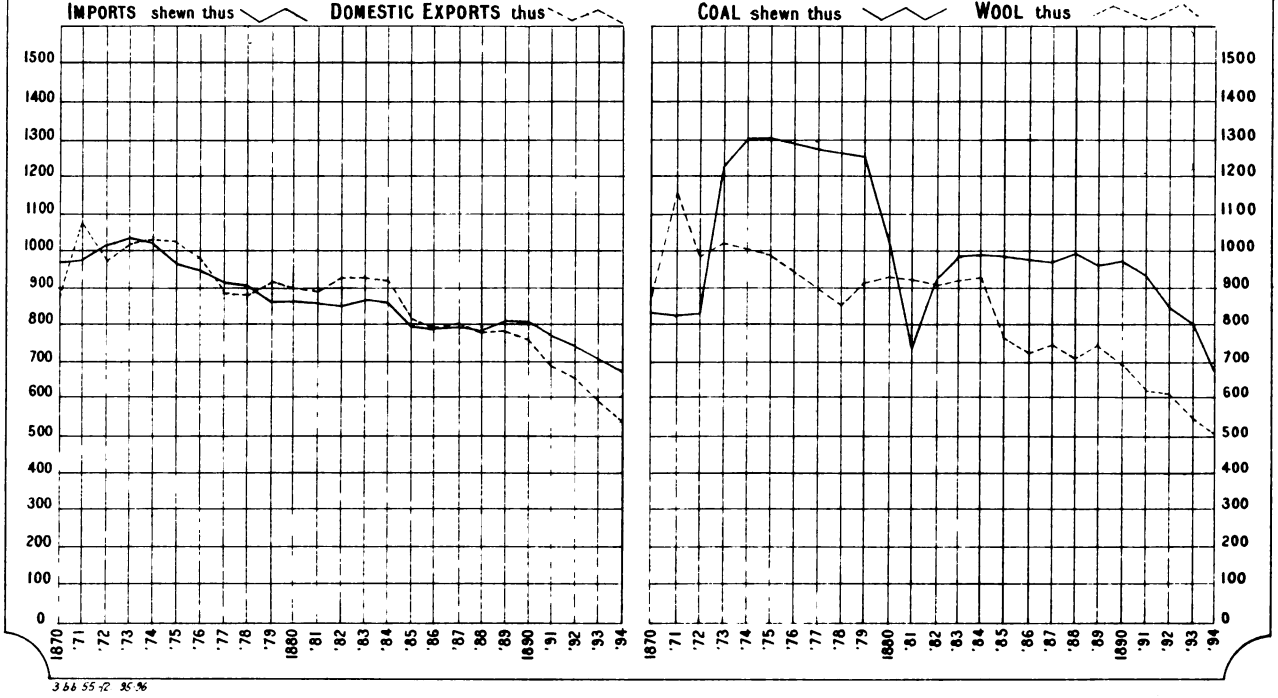
PRICE LEVEL

PRICES OF 1870-74 = 1000



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agriculture is included the value of green food, which may be termed a raw material in dairying; grain for swine and poultry feeding also appears twice; coal, coke, and timber used in mining appear under mining and forestry, and afterwards in the value of metals obtained by smelting; and there are other small items of a like character. It must be understood that so far as the manufacturing industry is concerned, the production is net, raw material in all its forms, including coal, being excluded from the totals given. The value of material twice included is about £185,000, which forms a deduction from the total of the following table:—

Industry.	Hands employed.	Value of Production.
	No.	£
Manufacturing and allied processes	62,811	7,626,750
Agriculture	69,392	3,395,570
Dairying and poultry farming	25,774	2,548,000
Pastoral industry	34,612	11,168,000
Mineral production	33,516	4,857,740
Forestry and fisheries	7,142	689,600
Total	233,247	30,285,660
Deduction for raw material twice included		185,000
Net production £		30,100,660

The figure £30,100,660 just arrived at is less than the value of production in 1891 by over £6,600,000. This fall is due entirely to the decline in prices, as in every branch of industry, except manufacturing, there has been a distinct advance since the year named. If the same prices had been obtained last year for produce as were obtained in 1891 the value of production would have been £38,320,800. The following table shows the value of production in various years from 1871 onwards; additional columns have been added, so as to show the value

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of production if prices had remained unaltered, and also the value if 1894 prices only had been obtained :—

Year.	Actual Value of Production.	Value if 1871 prices had been obtained.	Value if 1894 prices had been obtained.
	£	£	£
1871	15,379,000	15,379,000	8,314,730
1888	25,180,000	29,415,800	14,994,110
1891	36,739,760	56,914,500	28,658,000
1894	30,100,660	59,044,900	30,100,660

The foregoing table is not given with a view of showing that the difference between what was obtained for the production of the Colony in 1894 and the amount which would have been realised had 1871 prices prevailed represents a loss; on the contrary, as has been elsewhere pointed out, although the Colony has suffered by the fall in prices, her loss is chiefly occasioned by the fact that she is a debtor country, and that the fall in import values has not been equivalent to the fall in export values. What the table really does show is that the volume of production has been more than sustained. Compared with population, the value of production shows an average of £24 6s. 6d. per head, of which £20 9s. represents the yield of industries directly connected with the soil, a result which very few countries can claim to equal.

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PART XX.

LAW AND CRIME.

Police.

THE police force of New South Wales in the year 1894 consisted of 1,819 men of all ranks, including 11 superintendents, 13 inspectors, 29 sub-inspectors, 60 senior-sergeants, 105 sergeants, 260 senior-constables, and 1,341 constables. It is divided into 681 mounted police and 1,138 foot, 27 water police and 17 detectives being classed with the latter. The police are under the command of an Inspector-General, who is himself under the control of the Chief Secretary of the Colony. There are no local or municipal police. The strength of the force in the Colony during the last ten years was as follows :—

Year.	Metropolitan.	Country.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.
1885	466	977	1,443
1886	476	986	1,462
1887	502	989	1,491
1888	518	995	1,513
1889	543	1,024	1,567
1890	594	1,057	1,651
1891	643	1,022	1,665
1892	697	1,059	1,756
1893	714	1,062	1,776
1894	731	1,088	1,819

The protection of life and property does not form the whole of the duties performed by the police in this Colony. On the contrary, a very large portion of their time is taken up with administrative functions, such as the collection of the agricultural and stock schedules, and returns of works and manufactories; in many instances, too, the police act as Clerks of Petty Sessions and Mining Wardens, and fill other offices having no direct connection with police duties. The test sometimes applied as to the law-abiding character of the population of the different Colonies, as deduced from the apparent number of persons protected by one police officer, is entirely worthless unless the circumstances of the duties performed and the diverse areas of the Colonies are made elements of the comparison. The numbers of police in the various Colonies and their

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proportion to the civilian population are, therefore, given in the following table for what they may be worth. The figures refer to the beginning of 1895.

Colony.	Police.			Proportion of Inhabitants to one Police Officer.
	Metropolitan.	Country.	Total.	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
New South Wales...	731	1,088	1,819	688
Victoria	740	672	1,412	835
Queensland	196	722	918	485
South Australia ...	207	159	366	963
Western Australia..	72	211	283	290
Tasmania	64	213	277	568
New Zealand.....	49	432	481	1,426

A comparison of cities is given in the next table, and it would appear that the Australasian capitals have proportionately less police supervision than many of the other places enumerated in the list. This, however, of itself argues nothing in favour of the law-abiding character of the population of the cities named, but rather that a large number of police could with advantage be added to the force now employed for their protection :—

Cities.	Strength of Police.	Population to each Police Constable.	Cities.	Strength of Police.	Population to each Police Constable.
Australasia—	No.	No.	United Kingdom—	No.	No.
Sydney	731	579	Manchester	1,031	490
Melbourne	740	593	Edinburgh	487	538
Brisbane	196	480	Glasgow	1,310	523
Adelaide	207	689	Dublin	1,145	308
Perth	72	218	United States—		
Hobart	64	561	New York.....	3,174	472
Wellington	49	790	Philadelphia	1,624	643
Auckland.....	48	890	Chicago	1,050	810
United Kingdom—			Brooklyn	777	975
London.....	14,304	394	Boston	780	540
Liverpool	1,294	400	San Francisco ...	404	790

The total cost of the police service in New South Wales for the year 1894 was £324,171 ; in this sum, however, are included not only the pay of the officers and men, but also the expenses of equipment, forage, and mounting, as well as of the office establishment. The pay of a constable ranges from 6s. to 8s. per diem, while sergeants receive from 9s. 3d. to 10s. 6d. per day. Detectives receive from 9s. to 12s. per day. The total amount paid for salaries during 1894 was £259,363.

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APPREHENSIONS.

The law of New South Wales permits proceedings against persons charged with crime to be initiated either by arrest or by summons. During 1894 there were 41,030 arrests made, and in addition to these the police took proceedings by summons against 9,188 persons. There were, therefore, 50,218 cases in all brought by the police before Magistrates' Courts, as against a total of 66,075, viz., 43,748 apprehension cases and 22,327 summons cases, in the previous year. It will be noticed that the number of persons returned as being summoned by the police shows a very large falling off from 1893; this result has been brought about by a rigid scrutiny and amendment of the police returns, as it was discovered that in some districts it was customary on the part of the police to include remands as separate cases, and to set down mere transactions such as withdrawals as if they were appearances before the courts. The following table shows the classification of the offences for which arrests were made or summonses issued during the year:—

Offences.	Total Apprehensions.			Police cases in which proceedings were taken by summons.	Total Police cases.
	Males.	Females.	Persons.		
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Against the person	2,673	208	2,881	153	3,034
Against property, with violence	775	99	874	40	914
Against property, without violence	4,736	434	5,170	160	5,330
Forgery and offences against the currency	188	11	199	1	200
Drunkenness	15,910	3,612	19,522	623	20,145
Other offences against good order	8,311	1,848	10,159	4,233	14,392
Not included in the preceding	1,937	288	2,225	3,978	6,203
Total	34,530	6,500	41,030	9,188	50,218

Of the number shown in the foregoing table, 6,276 were dismissed, 42,246 were summarily convicted, and 1,696 were remanded to other Magistrates' Courts or committed for trial in the higher Courts. Although the total number of arrests may appear large, it must be remembered that many of the offences charged were of a very trivial character, while in some cases the arrests were made for the protection of the persons apprehended. For instance, during 1894 there were 1,843 arrests and summons cases for lunacy and vagrancy, and 4,634 for breaches of various Acts. Under the heading of drunkenness and of other offences against good order, such as riotous and indecent behaviour,

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and using obscene language, there were 33,394 cases, making a total of 39,871, or over 79 per cent. of the whole number of police cases for the year.

The following table shows the number of arrests and summons cases in the metropolitan and extra-metropolitan police districts, and distinguishes at the same time the various classes of offences:—

Offences.	Metropolitan.	Extra-Metropolitan.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.
Offences against the person	1,479	1,555	3,034
Offences against property, with violence	510	404	914
Offences against property, without violence	2,531	2,799	5,330
Forgery, and offences against the currency	114	86	200
Offences against good order, including drunkenness	19,457	15,080	34,537
Offences not included in the foregoing	2,571	3,632	6,203
Total	26,662	23,556	50,218

The metropolitan district contains about one-third of the population of the Colony; nevertheless the arrests were more numerous there than in the country districts. It is obvious that where the temptation to commit an offence is greatest the largest number of offences will occur; but it must also be conceded that many offences, especially drunkenness and other offences against good order, are likely to be promptly dealt with in large aggregations of population, while they are liable to escape altogether in sparsely settled localities.

It will be seen from the following table, in which summons cases (of which records are only available for 1893 and 1894) are omitted, that the proportion of arrests to the total population diminished annually until 1890, after which year, owing to the increasing scarcity of employment, the figures rose, and it was not until 1894 that the proportion again dropped to the level reached four years before. The number and proportion of arrests during the ten years ending with 1894 were as follow:—

Year.	Arrests.	Proportion to population.	Year.	Arrests.	Proportion to population.
	No.	per cent.		No.	per cent.
1885	48,261	5·20	1890	38,568	3·50
1886	48,854	5·04	1891	44,854	3·92
1887	44,094	4·39	1892	45,113	3·82
1888	42,579	4·11	1893	43,748	3·61
1889	38,345	3·56	1894	41,030	3·32

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Ages of Offenders.

The ages of persons arrested for various classes of offences during the year 1894 are given below. It will be seen that the most serious offences were charged against persons between the ages of 25 and 30, and that it was this age-group which yielded the largest proportion of offenders of all kinds:—

Offences.	Ages.										Total Apprehensions.
	Under 10.	10 and under 15.	15 and under 20.	20 and under 25.	25 and under 30.	30 and under 35.	35 and under 40.	40 and under 45.	45 and under 50.	50 and upwards.	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Against the person	..	20	163	504	863	472	305	239	116	199	2,881
Against property, with violence	..	28	96	153	273	121	78	55	30	50	874
Against property, without violence	36	320	575	716	1,310	764	496	366	191	396	5,170
Forgery and offences against the currency	..	1	4	29	53	53	15	19	6	19	199
Against good order, including drunkenness	17	104	1,266	3,045	6,114	4,916	3,819	3,415	2,304	4,681	29,681
Not included in the preceding	67	247	168	241	455	316	296	197	112	216	2,225
Total	120	720	2,262	4,688	9,068	6,642	4,919	4,291	2,759	5,561	41,030

The proportion of offences committed at different ages varies very little from year to year. In the following table this proportion is shown for the year 1894:—

Ages.	Persons Apprehended.			Proportion of Apprehensions to population of each distinct age group.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
Under 10 years	98	22	120	0·06	0·01	0·04
10 years and under 15	657	63	720	0·97	0·09	0·53
15 ,, 20	1,874	388	2,262	3·17	0·65	1·80
20 ,, 25	3,688	1,000	4,688	5·84	1·60	3·84
25 ,, 30	7,692	1,376	9,068	11·75	2·66	7·74
30 ,, 35	5,599	1,043	6,642	9·84	2·59	6·83
35 ,, 40	4,125	794	4,919	9·36	2·64	6·64
40 ,, 45	3,637	654	4,291	10·63	2·68	7·33
45 ,, 50	2,328	431	2,759	7·91	2·10	5·53
50 years and upwards	4,832	729	5,561	6·45	1·45	4·47
Total	34,530	6,500	41,030	5·18	1·14	3·32

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Birthplaces of Offenders.

At the census of 1891 the persons born in New South Wales formed 65 per cent. of the total population; while of the 41,030 males and females arrested during the year 1894, only 15,218, or 37·1 per cent., were born in the Colony. These figures are not, however, to be taken by themselves as proving the law-abiding character of the native-born as compared with the remainder of the community, as the bulk of the people under 20 years of age are by birth Australian, while males largely predominate over females among the British and foreign-born residents within the Colony. With the steady increase in the number of those born within the boundaries of New South Wales, there has naturally been a corresponding increase in the proportion contributed by them to the total number of apprehensions, the figures in 1894 being 37·1 per cent. as against 27·1 per cent. in 1885; and, similarly, the proportion of arrests of persons born in other parts of Australasia has risen in this Colony from 5·2 per cent. to 10·1 per cent. in the same period; while a decline in the proportion of persons of other than Australian birth resident in New South Wales has been accompanied by a decrease in the proportion of apprehensions contributed by them, the figures falling from 67·7 per cent. to 52·8 per cent. during the past decade.

But little can be gained by a comparison of offences with the number of persons of each nationality, as the bulk of the offences are committed by the adults, who comprise only one half of the native-born as against over 90 per cent. of the residents of certain other nationalities. Taking only the male offenders committed to gaol, and comparing them with the adult male population, the most law-abiding portion of the community are the much-abused Chinese, who show about 10 convictions per 1,000; next, but at a long interval, come the Germans, with 16 per 1,000; then the English, with 18; the South Australians, with 19; the Scotch, with 21; the native-born inhabitants of New South Wales, with 23; the Irish, with 25; the Danes, with 26; the Victorians, with 27; the Tasmanians, with 28; the French, with 30; the Swedes and Norwegians, with 40; the New Zealanders, with 44; the natives of the United States, with 63; and the Queenslanders, with 67. Even these figures, though deduced from proper data, require some explanation. The offenders belonging to the United States and to Scandinavia are for the most part sailors, whose offences should not be charged against the general population; some of the French are recidivistes from New Caledonia; and, indeed, it may be said that the offences do not arise from the nationality of the offender, but from his ignorance, his poverty, or his environment. In connection with this subject, it may be remarked that natives of countries which show a low average of comparative criminality exhibit in the Colony a rate of apparent lawlessness difficult to understand except on the supposition that a freer life and a larger remuneration have awakened dormant tendencies which otherwise would not have developed.

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The native countries of all persons arrested in 1894 will be found in the following table :—

Birthplaces.	Offences.						Total Apprehensions.
	Against the person.	Against property, with violence.	Against property, without violence.	Forgery and offences against the currency.	Against good order.	Not included in the preceding.	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
New South Wales	1,226	410	2,413	73	10,190	906	15,218
Victoria	209	49	346	10	1,404	104	2,122
South Australia	51	10	77	2	326	14	480
Queensland	46	28	92	5	325	27	523
Other Australasian Colonies	103	28	154	1	691	53	1,030
England	424	131	870	46	5,730	421	7,622
Ireland	340	99	520	17	6,567	277	7,820
Scotland	143	30	187	10	2,145	111	2,626
Other British possessions	39	13	88	7	384	41	572
France	29	9	35	6	155	19	253
Germany	36	18	97	7	334	55	547
China	52	8	60	2	178	27	327
Other Foreign Countries	183	41	231	13	1,252	170	1,890
Total	2,881	874	5,170	199	29,681	2,225	41,030

Religion of Offenders.

The nominal religious profession of each person arrested is ascertained and entered in the charge-sheet. During 1894 the arrests of persons belonging to each of the various denominations were :—

Religions.	Offences.						Total. Apprehensions.
	Against the person.	Against property, with violence.	Against property, without violence.	Forgery and offences against the currency.	Against good order.	Not included in the preceding.	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Church of England	1,075	331	2,290	94	10,808	948	15,546
Roman Catholic	1,283	383	2,016	65	14,060	825	18,632
Presbyterian	209	76	313	17	2,629	163	3,407
Wesleyan	85	25	180	6	463	78	837
Congregational	7	....	16	1	38	7	69
Baptist	13	3	32	....	56	13	117
Lutheran	57	11	72	1	449	82	672
Salvation Army	6	1	10	....	29	3	49
Unitarian	....	....	6	5	5	1	17
Other Christian Denominations	8	2	13	2	100	10	135
Hebrew	12	5	52	5	52	14	140
Mahommedan	4	5	22	....	38	7	76
All others	122	32	148	3	954	74	1,333
Total	2,881	874	5,170	199	29,681	2,225	41,030

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It is found that no great reliance can be placed on the statements of many of the persons who are arrested as to the religious belief which they nominally profess, as in some instances offenders are found to have returned themselves as of three or more different religions in the course of a year; but allowing for all such persons the foregoing may be taken as a fair statement of the creeds adopted by offenders. The table shows a large excess of Roman Catholic offenders; this denomination numbers about 25·5 per cent. of the population, while the proportion of persons so returning themselves was 45·4 per cent. of the total offenders—a condition of things which has obtained for many years, and which has in all probability been due to the lower social condition of the members of the Roman Catholic community.

Education of Offenders.

The degree of education of those who were arrested has also been obtained as far as possible. Four grades of education were formerly adopted for classification purposes, but in consequence of the difficulty of defining the term "Superior Education" that classification has been abandoned, and as the amount of education possessed by persons who are said to be able to read only must be very slight, the distinction between this class and the completely illiterate has not been attempted. The educational status of persons arrested during 1894 is shown below:—

Offences.	Degree of Education.						Total Apprehensions.
	Illiterate.			Read and Write.			
	Males.	Females	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Against the person	187	11	198	2,486	197	2,683	2,881
Against property, with violence	46	4	50	729	95	824	874
Against property, without violence	372	23	395	4,364	411	4,775	5,170
Forgery and offences against the currency	6	2	8	182	9	191	199
Against good order, including drunkenness	1,613	256	1,869	22,608	5,204	27,812	29,681
Not included in the preceding	179	42	221	1,758	246	2,004	2,225
Total	2,403	338	2,741	32,127	6,162	38,289	41,030

The proportion of persons of 20 years and upwards in the community who are able to read and write is estimated to be about 91·2 per cent.,

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while in 1894 the proportion of persons arrested who were so far educated was 93·3 per cent. From these figures a hasty conclusion might be drawn that the progress of education has not been attended with that decrease in crime which its friends confidently expected to follow in its train. But it must always be remembered that although the proportion of persons arrested who can read and write has much increased of late years, such increase is merely a proof of the spread of education, even amongst those whose environment offers inducements to the commission of crime.

The best proof of the effect of the spread of education on crime is the notable decrease which has for many years been observable in the number of committals and convictions for serious offences. Although the direct effect of the spread of enlightenment cannot be gauged by figures, there is ample evidence to warrant the assumption that education is doing its work as an active leaven for good throughout the community.

Drunkenness.

The arrests for drunkenness, with or without disorderly conduct, during 1894, numbered 19,522, or 47·6 per cent. of the total arrests, as compared with 19,729 arrests, and a ratio of 45·1 per cent., for the previous year. There were also 623 persons proceeded against by summons for this offence, as against 777 in 1893. The total number of cases of drunkenness dealt with by the police was, therefore, 20,145, as compared with 20,506 in the previous year. The commercial depression, which limited the spending power of the people, has possibly had something to do with the decrease in drunkenness during the past few years, and perhaps there may have been a little less stringency on the part of the police in enforcing the law. The following figures show the number of arrests and summons cases for drunkenness in the two divisions adopted in a preceding table :—

Cases of Drunkenness.	Metropolitan.	Extra-Metropolitan.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.
Apprehensions	12,112	7,410	19,522
Summons Cases.....	297	326	623
Total.....	12,409	7,736	20,145

The following table shows the total number of arrests and police summons cases in each police district, the arrests for drunkenness alone,

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and the proportion which the last-named bore to the total arrests during the year :—

District.	Total Apprehensions and Police Summonses.	Apprehensions for Drunkenness.			Police Summons Cases for Drunkenness.	Total Apprehensions and Police Summonses for Drunkenness.	Proportion of Apprehensions and Summonses for Drunkenness to total Apprehensions and Summonses.
		Males.	Females.	Total.			
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	per cent.
Metropolitan ...	26,662	8,890	3,222	12,112	297	12,409	46·5
Eastern	2,774	591	50	641	132	773	27·9
North-eastern ..	3,156	892	71	963	88	1,051	33·3
Northern	2,235	783	31	814	26	840	37·6
North-western .	2,425	872	40	912	12	924	38·1
Bourke	1,758	501	9	510	5	515	29·3
Western	3,597	990	61	1,051	16	1,067	29·7
South-western ..	2,773	984	60	1,044	7	1,051	37·9
The Murray ...	2,123	791	34	825	16	841	39·6
Southern	2,715	616	34	650	24	674	24·8
Total.....	50,218	15,910	3,612	19,522	623	20,145	40·1

Persons arrested for drunkenness are chiefly residents of large towns, and it is only natural to expect that with an increase in the population of the towns there should be an increase in the arrests for drunkenness. The number of arrests during each year since 1885 is shown in the following table, and it is satisfactory to note that the decrease is not only in proportion to the population, but in the actual number of arrests. Much stress, however, could not be laid on the falling off in arrests if there were not other evidence of the decrease of drunkenness, as a word of instruction from the Inspector-General of Police could, according to its tenor, increase or decrease the number of persons apprehended on this charge; but the decline in arrests has been coincident with a marked decrease in the consumption of intoxicants, so that it may be fairly assumed that drunkenness is on the wane :—

Year.	Apprehensions for Drunkenness.			Police Summons Cases for Drunkenness.	Apprehensions and Summons Cases for Drunkenness.	Proportion of Apprehensions and Summonses for Drunkenness to total Population.
	Males.	Females.	Total.			
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	per cent.
1885	21,944	4,347	26,291	1,202	27,493	3·0
1886	21,879	4,431	26,310	1,412	27,722	2·9
1887	19,229	3,477	22,706	1,440	24,146	2·4
1888	17,438	3,691	21,129	1,202	22,331	2·1
1889	14,887	3,468	18,355	988	19,343	1·8
1890	15,636	3,018	18,654	969	19,623	1·8
1891	18,477	3,598	22,075	1,096	23,171	2·0
1892	17,296	3,369	20,665	1,144	21,809	1·8
1893	16,180	3,549	19,729	777	20,506	1·6
1894	15,910	3,612	19,522	623	20,145	1·6

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The average consumption per inhabitant of spirits, wines, and fermented liquors since 1885 is given in the following table; also the total quantity of all classes of intoxicants consumed, expressed in terms of proof spirit. It will be seen that the consumption of intoxicants per inhabitant has declined during the period covered by the table, the quantity in 1894 being nearly 36 per cent. less than in the first year shown:—

Year.	Spirits.	Wines.	Beer.	Equivalent in Alcohol (proof).
	galls.	galls.	galls.	galls.
1885	1·30	0·65	13·79	3·37
1886	1·20	0·72	12·32	3·23
1887	1·11	0·73	11·69	2·97
1888	1·10	0·76	11·01	2·88
1889	1·07	0·83	10·89	2·73
1890	1·09	0·73	10·63	2·68
1891	1·11	0·84	11·42	2·83
1892	1·00	0·86	10·91	2·67
1893	0·83	0·84	9·23	2·30
1894	0·77	0·79	8·97	2·17

If the number of persons who render themselves liable to arrest may be fairly assumed to be in direct proportion to the amount of intoxicants consumed, a decrease in consumption is necessarily a sign of increased sobriety.

The number of persons arrested for habitual drunkenness does not vary much from year to year, nor does the proportion of such arrests to the total arrests for drunkenness. The average of the last ten years was 110, or 5 in every thousand persons arrested for drunkenness. It would be a comforting thought, if it were true, that there were only 110 habitual drunkards in the community, or that this number only were known to the police. Unfortunately there is ample evidence that the number arrested does not represent a tithe of the habitual drunkards of the Colony.

The question of the relative prevalence of drunkenness, as tested by the number of persons arrested for that offence in the different Colonies, has received no little attention, and it has been made to appear that New South Wales in this regard holds a bad pre-eminence. The

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total arrests for drunkenness and the number per 1,000 of population in the different Colonies, for the year 1894, were :—

	Total arrests for drunkenness.	Arrests, per 1,000 of population.
New South Wales	19,522	15·8
Victoria	11,017	9·4
Queensland	3,902	8·9
South Australia	2,370	6·8
Tasmania	565	3·6
New Zealand	4,583	6·7

During 1894 the arrests for drunkenness in New South Wales exhibited a slight decrease as compared with those of the previous year, which reached a total of 19,729. The figures for all the other Colonies show a slight decline compared with those of the previous year, the actual number of arrests, as well as the proportion per thousand inhabitants, being less. But an argument founded solely on the number of arrests for drunkenness is misleading, for a great deal depends upon the state of the law and the manner in which it is administered. The extent of the area supervised must also be taken into consideration, for it is evident that the law will be less strictly enforced in the sparsely settled districts of Queensland, South Australia, and Western Australia, than in the more thickly populated parts of Australia. The quantity of intoxicants consumed per head of the community is, perhaps, a better guide, though not always a safe indication, unless the manners and customs of the people are also considered; but where the habits of communities are so similar as is the case in regard to the Australasian Colonies, the consumption per head is a tolerably fair test. The figures for the year 1893 given in the table on page 306 of the first volume of this work may be taken as correct, with some slight hesitation as regards those relating to the consumption of beer in the Colonies where no excise duty was enforced, viz., in South Australia and Western Australia. As the table stands, the average consumption of alcohol of proof strength per inhabitant is shown to be 2·30 gallons in New South Wales; 2·41 in Victoria; 2·21 in Queensland; 1·96 in South Australia; 2·97 in Western Australia; 1·40 in Tasmania; and 1·74 gallons in New Zealand; the average for Australasia being 2·18 gallons. The amount of alcohol consumed is greatest in Western Australia and Victoria, while in New South Wales it is somewhat above the average for Australasia. In regard to Western Australia, in dealing with the consumption of intoxicants the circumstance that the males largely exceed the females must not be neglected. If a comparison were made as to the consumption per head, excluding females, the case against Western Australia would be very materially altered. The figures given, however, at once dispose of the theory so persistently put forward as to the excessive prevalence of drunkenness in New South Wales, and the more effectually when it is borne in mind that the number of males engaged in laborious work is far larger here than in most of the colonies with a more favourable record.

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There is one notable fact worth recording in connection with this subject. Out of 19,522 arrests for drunkenness in New South Wales in 1894, there were only 5,919 persons born in the Colony as compared with 13,603 persons born outside its boundaries. The arrests for drunkenness amongst the native-born were only in the ratio of 1 in 43 of the adult population, as compared with 1 in 35 of the rest of the adult community. It may, therefore, be considered as well established that the Australian native is not given over to the vice of drunkenness.

Courts of Petty Sessions.

The Magistrates' Courts or Courts of Petty Sessions in the metropolitan district are presided over by Stipendiary Magistrates, and in the country districts Police Magistrates and Justices of the Peace adjudicate, the latter being honorary officers. Except in a few special cases, the jurisdiction of the magistrates is limited to offences involving a penalty of six months' imprisonment and under, but although magistrates are not empowered to pass cumulative sentences, a prisoner who is undergoing a term of imprisonment on one charge may be brought before the Court to answer for the committal of a second offence, and if found guilty can be sentenced to a further term of imprisonment, to commence upon the expiration of the sentence then being served. All persons who are entered on the charge-sheet of the police, except those committed by Supreme Court Judges and Coroners, must be brought before magistrates to be summarily dealt with or committed to a higher Court. The Stipendiary Magistrates, together with a Justice of the Peace specially appointed by the Executive Council, preside over Courts in the metropolitan area for licensing the sale of fermented and spirituous liquors, while in each licensing district of the other parts of the Colony these duties are performed by a Police Magistrate and two Justices of the Peace appointed for the purpose.

During 1894 there were, exclusive of lunacy cases, 61,930 persons brought before magistrates. Of this number, 60,437 were dealt with summarily, convictions being recorded in respect of 46,210, and 14,227 discharged either on the merits of the cases or for want of prosecution; while the remaining 1,493 persons were committed for trial in the higher Courts. The returns received from the Courts of Petty Sessions do not allow of a division of the 60,437 persons summarily dealt with into the six groups of offences adopted in this chapter. Such a division, however, can be made with the returns of the charges preferred against accused people, which are accordingly found presented in that manner in the following table. The figures, of course, differ from those giving the number of persons brought before the Courts, for the reason that one person may appear to answer to two or more charges; for instance, a person who has been arrested by the police for being drunk and

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disorderly may commit an assault upon his captors while in custody, and in such a case he would be twice entered in the table, viz., for drunkenness, under the heading of "Offences against good order"; and for assault, under the heading of "Offences against the person." The 65,931 charges or cases shown below are to be regarded as corresponding with the 60,437 persons summarily dealt with in Magistrates' Courts during the year :—

Offences.	Total Cases.	Disposal of Cases.	
		Dismissed, withdrawn, or struck out.	Summarily convicted.
	No.	No.	No.
Against the person	4,785	2,449	2,336
Against property, with violence	1,040	468	572
Against property, without violence	5,784	2,446	3,338
Forgery, and offences against the currency	27	27	.....
Against good order	36,865	4,387	32,478
Not included in the preceding	17,430	5,675	11,755
Total	65,931	15,452	50,479

The number of persons summarily convicted by magistrates, together with the punishments inflicted, is given in the following table for the year 1894 :—

Punishments.	Offences against the person.	Offences against property, with violence.	Offences against property, without violence.	Forgery and offences against the Currency.	Offences against good order.	Offences not included in the preceding.	Total convictions.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Fines paid	1,201	256	708	...	12,502	7,203	21,870
Imprisonment in lieu of paying fine or finding security	406	162	459	...	15,016	1,010	17,053
Peremptory imprisonment	350	36	1,628	...	1,617	323	3,954
Imprisonment, with whipping	...	..	...	...	2	...	2
Bound over, with or without sureties	87	3	49	...	97	42	278
Other punishments, including fines unpaid	39	11	162	...	497	2,344	3,053
Total	2,083	468	3,006	...	29,731	10,922	46,210

As shown above, the number of convicted persons sentenced to peremptory imprisonment was 3,954, and adding those incarcerated in default of paying the fine, viz., 17,053, the total number imprisoned was

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21,007, out of 46,210 summarily convicted by the magistrates, or 45·5 per cent. The number of fines paid was 21,870; but it is probable that some of those who were imprisoned in default of immediately paying the fine imposed were discharged before the term had expired, the fine having been paid in the meanwhile. The total sum received by way of fines during 1894 was £17,915, of which amount £11,460 was paid into the Consolidated Revenue, and £6,455 was given to the Police Reward Fund. The amount of the fines received each year since 1885 is given below. The sums are exclusive of rewards paid to informers, and of fines going to municipalities and other corporate bodies :—

Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.
	£		£
1885	28,892	1890	20,596
1886	27,024	1891	25,955
1887	23,407	1892	24,450
1888	22,623	1893	21,934
1889	20,432	1894	17,915

Under the Criminal Law Amendment Act (46 Vic. No. 17), provision has been made for whipping as an additional punishment, chiefly for wanton and unprovoked assault and for indecent exposure. The court adjudicating must consist, in the metropolitan district, of two Stipendiary Magistrates, and in the country of two or more Justices of the Peace, one of whom must be a Stipendiary or Police Magistrate.

The First Offenders' Probation Act of 1894 (57 Vic. No. 23), containing provisions similar to those which have proved of so much value in the treatment of crime in older countries, came into operation on the 1st June. Under this enactment a youthful offender who has been convicted of an offence committed under sudden temptation may be given an opportunity of showing by his future conduct that his aberration was only temporary, and with this object in view the prevention of contamination by gaol associations is provided for. The person whose case is dealt with in this manner by the presiding magistrate or judge is not required to serve the sentence passed upon him, but is liberated on entering into a recognizance, with or without sureties, for his good behaviour during the period over which his sentence extends, the probationary term, however, being not less than one year in every case. Before he is permitted to depart from custody he is examined for future identification, and during the period covered by his sentence he must report himself to the police every three months. If he should fail to do so, or should again lapse into crime, he may be arrested and committed to gaol for that portion of his sentence which is still to run; but should his behaviour be good throughout the whole of the probationary period he is not regarded as having been convicted, and if at

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any time later on he is arrested for another offence a previous conviction cannot be put in against him. The few cases dealt with under the First Offenders' Probation Act in Magistrates' Courts in 1894 are included under the heading "Bound over, with or without sureties," in the table showing the punishments inflicted.

The following table gives the number of cases in which summary convictions before magistrates were obtained during the past ten years :—

Year.	Offences against the person.	Offences against property.	Other Offences.	Year.	Offences against the person.	Offences against property.	Other Offences.
	No.	No.	No.		No.	No.	No.
1885	5,159	3,649	50,537	1890	4,473	3,666	39,963
1886	5,187	3,676	53,405	1891	2,904	3,442	49,365
1887	4,667	3,876	45,071	1892	3,264	4,125	48,961
1888	4,779	4,669	41,428	1893	2,942	3,922	47,999
1889	4,658	3,931	40,114	1894	2,336	3,910	44,233

The foregoing figures show that notwithstanding the large increase in population during the ten years there has been a marked diminution in the number of summary convictions by magistrates, and that, too, in face of the constant passing of new Acts, breaches of which are punishable by fine, and the growing tendency to dispose of cases in the lower Courts. Since the appointment of Stipendiary Magistrates in the Metropolitan district there has been a greater proportion of cases summarily dealt with, while it is also noticeable that the proportion of acquittals and discharges has greatly fallen off. Prior to 1880, it may be said that about 25 per cent. of the persons brought before magistrates were discharged, while at the present time the proportion is about 15 per cent. The following table shows the proportion of summary convictions by magistrates, of acquittals and discharges, and of committals to higher courts :—

Year.	Summary Convictions.	Acquittals and Discharges.	Committals to Higher Courts.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1870	69·0	24·7	6·3
1875	70·1	25·3	4·6
1880	76·9	18·4	4·7
1885	82·9	14·1	3·0
1890	80·4	16·0	3·6
1891	81·6	14·8	3·6
1892	80·3	16·6	3·1
1893	80·4	16·0	3·6
1894	82·9	13·1	4·0

The Courts of Petty Sessions have also civil jurisdiction in regard to small debts. In the metropolitan district the amount sued for must not exceed £10, and in the country £30.

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Inquests.

In all cases of violent or unnatural death, death resulting from accident, sudden death, death in a gaol, a lockup, or a hospital; suicide, or death resulting from execution, it is the duty of the Coroner of the district to hold an inquiry into the cause if he has reasonable grounds for believing that death was due to violence or other unnatural means, and for that purpose he is empowered to order the exhumation of a body if necessary, to summon jurors and witnesses, and to commit for trial a person found guilty by the jury of the crime of manslaughter or murder. Every death which takes place in gaol must be investigated. In a district where no coroner has been appointed, or the officer is unable to hold the usual inquest, a magistrate may hold an inquiry; but owing to the fact that he is not empowered to commit a suspected person for trial, he must terminate the inquiry in all cases where facts are disclosed which point to the criminality of a person, and direct the police to prosecute at the nearest police court. The numbers of deaths during 1894, the causes of which were investigated by Coroners or Magistrates, were 908 of males and 269 of females, giving a total of 1,177 inquests and magisterial inquiries. The finding of the courts in 290 cases was that death was due to a specific disease, and in 793 cases to violence, while the cause of death in 94 cases was not clearly defined.

It is provided by Act 24 Vic. No. 10 that when any real or personal property has been destroyed or damaged by fire, the Coroner exercising jurisdiction in the district where the fire has occurred shall, if he consider the case a fit one for investigation, hold an inquiry into the cause of the burning. The procedure is similar to that followed in inquests held in connection with cases of death. The Coroner can, on the decision of his jury, commit a person to stand his trial on a charge of arson. There are a Coroner and a Deputy-Coroner for Sydney, and 131 Coroners for the country districts, as well as two for the Colony generally. Inquiries were held during 1894 into the causes of 173 fires, and the verdict returned was one of accident in 13 cases, of arson in 44, of insufficient evidence in 113 cases, of carelessness in 1 case, while in 2 cases no verdict was returned.

Superior Courts.—Criminal Jurisdiction.

A Judge of the Supreme Court presides over the Central Criminal Court of Gaol Delivery held at Sydney. All prisoners are tried by a jury of twelve, chosen by ballot from the panel provided by the Sheriff. In capital cases the right to challenge both by the Crown and by the accused is limited, except for cause shown, to twenty jurors, and for offences other than capital, whether felonies or misdemeanours, the challenge cannot exceed eight. Under Act 55 Vic. No. 5, which was assented to in December, 1891, a person charged with an indictable offence is privileged, but not compelled, to give evidence in Court on the hearing of the

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charge. Prior to the passing of this Act such a proceeding was allowed in trials for bigamy only. An accused person may also make a statement at the close of the case for the prosecution without being liable to examination thereupon by counsel for the Crown or by the Court. The verdict of the jury must be unanimous, for even if eleven jurors were agreed their verdict could not be accepted. If the jury cannot agree they may be locked up until they either give a unanimous verdict or are discharged by the Court. If no verdict is returned the prisoner is liable to be tried over again by another jury.

In addition to the supreme, civil, and criminal sittings of the Court held in Sydney, the Judges go on circuit once in each half-year, and hold Courts of Gaol Delivery, called Circuit Courts, for dealing with the more serious class of criminal cases, especially those in which the capital penalty is involved, and for hearing civil causes at certain circuit towns, viz.:—In the north—Maitland, Tamworth, Armidale, and Grafton; in the west—Mudgee, Bathurst, Dubbo, and Broken Hill; in the south—Goulburn, Yass, Wagga Wagga, Albury, Deniliquin, Young, and Hay.

The Courts of Quarter Sessions are presided over by Chairmen, who also perform the duties of Judges of the District Courts. There are seven Chairmen of Quarter Sessions; two of these preside over the Courts in the Metropolitan, Suburban, and Hunter Districts, and one each in the following districts:—Southern, south-western, northern, north-western, and western. All offences except those involving the capital penalty are within the jurisdiction of the Court. On the trial of prisoners at Quarter Sessions, the Chairman, at the request of the prisoner's counsel, must reserve questions of law for the consideration of the Supreme Court, or he may so act *motu proprio*.

In the following table will be found the number of persons who made their appearance before the Superior Courts of the Colony during the year 1894, and the manner in which they were dealt with. The number of separate cases in which the accused figured is also given. It will be understood that the committals are shown irrespective of the year in which they were made in the lower Courts:—

Committals.	Quarter Sessions.	Central Criminal Court and Circuit Courts.	All Superior Courts.
	No.	No.	No.
Convictions	673	219	892
Acquittals	285	128	413
Disagreement of Jury	1	6	7
Bound over	.....	5	5
Remands	.....	11	11
Cases not proceeded with	12	2	14
No Bill found	30	.....	30
Total Committals—Persons	1,001	371	1,372
,, Cases	959	303	1,262

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The following statement shows the character of the principal offences for which prisoners were tried during each year since 1885, and affords material for interesting study. Cases in which no bill was found, or which from various causes were not proceeded with, are included under the heading of "Other Offences" in the table:—

Offences.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Murder	18	17	11	22	13	9	17	7	15	18
Attempted murder	7	5	7	9	9	8	7	6	7	4
Manslaughter	12	25	7	22	16	25	25	19	58	16
Wounding maliciously, unlawfully.	78	115	86	109	65	118	116	111	121	119
Rape, and attempts to commit	9	41	7	16	12	14	21	18	14	14
Assaults on children	20	18	32	28	27	24	16	26	18	8
Indecent assaults	28	20	26	28	23	35	43	48	40	30
Unnatural offences	15	14	18	13	10	35	20	29	15	12
Arson	19	23	10	15	23	21	22	21	17	33
Robbery with violence, including garrotting.	39	57	60	47	79	47	39	40	50	50
Larceny and receiving stolen property.	272	251	225	186	267	237	263	261	223	279
Stealing in a dwelling, including burglary.	113	125	115	178	166	91	84	154	78	85
Forgery and uttering	77	129	95	114	109	87	89	147	79	81
Stealing from the person	68	61	44	54	70	56	61	44	37	50
Obtaining money, etc., under false pretences.	68	70	96	70	87	94	73	57	52	48
Embezzlement	17	39	38	47	38	25	60	48	24	22
Horse-stealing	88	78	76	70	71	74	50	40	63	54
Cattle-stealing	33	24	26	22	25	26	35	19	15	17
Sheep-stealing	20	33	18	19	20	19	4	14	28	16
Perjury	3	8	7	21	15	9	14	46	31	3
Other offences	452	460	498	457	430	500	516	461	406	408
Total Committals	1,456	1,613	1,502	1,547	1,575	1,554	1,575	1,616	1,391	1,372

The scope of this work does not admit of the particulars of offences being set out in great detail, but if the returns be analysed it will be found that, as experience has shown elsewhere, the seasons have a marked effect upon conduct; besides this, however, there is apparently a periodicity in crimes sufficiently curious to afford food for speculation. Perhaps the strongest examples of this periodicity are in connection with crimes of blood, *i.e.*, those of murder, manslaughter, and maliciously wounding, and with crimes against females, and unnatural offences:

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Decrease in Crime.

There are two ways available for testing the increase or decrease in crime: the first, which is by comparing the number of arrests with the whole population of the country, may be said to be a test of the willingness or otherwise of the people to obey the laws; the second is a comparison of the persons committed for trial by jury with the whole population, and as all serious offenders are so tried, this may be looked upon as a test of the prevalence of serious crime. In making comparisons of this kind it must be borne in mind—first, in regard to apprehensions, that as new laws are continually being made, and the large proportion of such laws attach the penalty of fine or imprisonment to their breach, the number of offences for which a person is liable to be apprehended has constantly been increasing; and second, that the general tendency of late years has been for magistrates to deal summarily with a large proportion of the cases submitted to them. Hence it is quite possible that crime might be neither increasing nor diminishing, and yet the returns show an increase of apprehensions and a decrease of committals. Taking all things into consideration, the tables given hereunder may be accepted as showing that crime has largely decreased. The first table shows, in quinquennial periods, the mean population, the average number of apprehensions, and the proportion of these to the general population for the last twenty-five years:—

Period.	Mean Population.	Apprehensions.	
		Average Annual.	Proportion per 1,000 of Population.
1870–74	526,733	19,422	36·87
1875–79	633,255	28,837	45·54
1880–84	802,712	41,262	51·40
1885–89	1,000,744	44,427	44·39
1890–94	1,174,963	42,663	36·31

It cannot be claimed that 36·31 apprehensions per thousand of population is a low average; on the contrary, it is much above that of most of the other Colonies of the group, but it is a marked improvement on the rates of previous years. The comparison made above has reference to the whole population, but as few persons under 15 years of age commit crimes, children under that age have been excluded from the

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following statement, which compares the four years 1879–82 with the four years 1889–92, these periods being selected on account of the number in each age-group being accurately determinable from the Census taken about the middle of each period. The following figures relate to males :—

Age-group.	1879–82.			1889–92.		
	Population.	Average Annual Arrests.	Proportion of Population Arrested.	Population.	Average Annual Arrests.	Proportion of Population Arrested.
	No.	No.	per cent.	No.	No.	per cent.
15 years and under 20...	38,169	1,734	4·54	54,267	2,058	3·79
20 ,, ,, 30...	75,106	8,884	11·83	117,858	10,868	9·22
30 ,, ,, 40...	56,699	8,141	14·36	92,495	9,676	10·46
40 ,, ,, 50...	43,668	5,945	13·61	58,500	6,346	10·85
50 ,, upwards...	44,602	5,061	11·35	68,970	5,516	8·00

In every age-group there has been a decided fall in the proportion of arrests, but the improvement is most marked in the higher age-groups, which every year are becoming more largely composed of Australian-born. The decline in the proportion of females arrested is even more noticeable than amongst the males. The following figures relating to females are on the same basis as those in the preceding table :—

Age-group.	1879–82.			1889–92.		
	Population.	Average Annual Arrests.	Proportion of Population Arrested.	Population.	Average Annual Arrests.	Proportion of Population Arrested.
	No.	No.	per cent.	No.	No.	per cent.
15 years and under 20...	37,565	484	1·29	54,476	510	0·94
20 ,, ,, 30...	59,969	1,813	3·02	100,391	1,997	1·99
30 ,, ,, 40...	49,345	2,018	5·00	63,993	1,762	2·75
40 ,, ,, 50...	27,189	1,471	5·41	40,895	1,140	2·79
50 ,, upwards...	27,120	1,118	4·12	45,201	814	1·80

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Turning to the committals to the higher Courts and the convictions there, an even more decided decline is noticeable, and as the committals represent the more serious types of offences, the decline must be looked upon as especially satisfactory :—

Period.	Committals.		Convictions.	
	Annual Average.	Proportion per 10,000 of Population.	Annual Average.	Proportion per 10,000 of Population.
1870–74	1,134	21·53	644	12·23
1875–79	1,506	23·78	881	13·91
1880–84	1,693	21·09	1,044	13·01
1885–89	1,539	15·39	885	8·84
1890–94	1,503	12·79	916	7·80

It will be seen that the fall has been nearly continuous over the whole period, convictions for serious offences being scarcely more numerous than they were twenty years ago, notwithstanding the fact that population has nearly doubled during the interval.

Crime in Australasia.

The convictions in the higher Courts of New South Wales, taken over a series of years, greatly exceed in number those of any other Colony, and in proportion to the population they are only exceeded by Western Australia. So marked is this fact that much speculation has been indulged in as to the probable cause of the anomaly. It is admitted that the people of all the Colonies are practically derived from the same stock, while their occupations and habits of life are fairly alike, and a theory has been hazarded that the high rate of crime in New South Wales is due to a blood taint derived from the original bond-population of this Colony. Such a theory is manifestly absurd, as Tasmania, the Colony which received proportionately the largest number of convicts, and whose population has been least diluted by immigration, has for many years had the most favourable record of convictions. There is no evidence that such a population now exists anywhere in these Colonies; it certainly does not exist in New South Wales. But though the gratuitous theory above alluded to may be easily disposed of, the fact remains that the second largest proportion of convictions in the higher Courts occurs in New South Wales. Western Australia, as will be seen from the table subjoined, shows a much higher proportion; but its

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sparse population and peculiar situation would warrant the anticipation of a large amount of crime of a kind not found in the older settled Colonies. The convictions after trial in the Superior Courts of Australasia, for the year 1894, were :—

	Number.	Per 10,000 of population.
New South Wales	892	7·2
Victoria	435	3·7
Queensland	226	5·6
South Australia	131	3·7
Western Australia	84	11·4
Tasmania	42	2·7
New Zealand	300	4·4

In the foregoing table it will be observed that New South Wales has the largest proportion of convictions after trial in the Superior Courts of any of the Colonies in the group, except Western Australia, the peculiar circumstances of which have already been alluded to. It may be mentioned, however, that South Australia and Tasmania have no intermediate Courts like the Quarter Sessions of New South Wales and the District Courts with criminal jurisdiction of some of the other Colonies, and many persons who would be committed to higher Courts in New South Wales are convicted in the Magisterial Courts of South Australia and Tasmania; nevertheless this would only slightly affect the result in these Colonies, and the fact remains that New South Wales stands in the unenviable position of having the largest proportion of convictions after trial of any of the group except Western Australia.

There has been in New South Wales for many years a large population whose abode in any district is determined by the existence of a demand for unskilled labour, and it is from the ranks of this floating population that a large proportion of the persons convicted of crime is derived. All the Colonies have, to a greater or less extent, this class of population; but in New South Wales it is numerically the largest. As these people settle down to regular employment in a fixed abode and acquire interests apart from the excitements of an unsettled life, crime will be found to diminish. The neighbouring Colony of Victoria, where the decrease of convictions has steadily kept pace with the settlement of its population, may be cited as an example of this truth, the proportion of convictions being reduced in 1894 to 3·7 per 10,000, as compared with 10·1 in 1866.

The laws relating to crime are somewhat similar in all the Colonies; but the administration of these laws may possibly be more rigorous in New South Wales than in any other Colony. This has already been shown to be the case in regard to drunkenness, and offers an additional explanation of the large number of convictions obtained in New South Wales. It should also be remembered that in this Colony there is no Act to prevent the influx of criminals, such as they have, and enforce stringently, in some of the other Colonies.

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Capital Punishment.

In the early days of settlement the spectacle of judicial executions must have been extremely common. Offences which are now dealt with by magistrates in a summary way, and deemed sufficiently punished by imprisonment for two or three months, were in some cases punishable by death. This barbarous system lasted until about the year 1832, when the offences of stealing from a dwelling money or goods to the value of £5, and of killing or stealing horses, cattle, or sheep, were removed from the category of capital crimes. Five years later the punishment of death was abolished in the following cases:—Riotous destruction of buildings and machinery, riotous assembling, rescue of a person convicted of murder, seducing a person in the Royal Navy from duty, inciting to mutiny, administering unlawful oaths purporting to bind the person taking the same to commit any treason or murder, breaking prison, escaping from lawful custody more than once, smuggling while armed, shooting at any vessel, or maliciously shooting or maiming any officer of the Navy or Revenue Service. Executions have been less numerous of late years than formerly, the dread penalty being carried out in only a small proportion of cases wherein the death sentence has been pronounced. The number of executions since 1825 is given herewith. In three years only have there been no executions. Four females have been hanged during the period in question:—

Year.	Convictions.	Executions.	Year.	Convictions.	Executions.	Year.	Convictions.	Executions.
1825	54	9	1849	6	4	1872	19	3
1826	72	21	1850	5	4	1873	10	4
1827	93	29	1851	8	2	1874	14	3
1828	106	28	1852	10	5	1875	8	2
1829	112	52	1853	4	2	1876	15	4
1830	136	50	1854	11	6	1877	9	2
1831	143	32	1855	12	5*	1878	12	1
1832	156	12	1856	7	.....	1879	21	1
1833	135	31	1857	9	4	1880	21	4
1834	148	44	1858	9	1	1881	6	2
1835	142	40	1859	10	7	1882	14	3
1836	79	26	1860	11	5*	1883	9	1
1837	90	12	1861	32	2	1884	8	2
1838	130	19	1862	18	6	1885	11	3
1839	53	22	1863	16	6	1886	22	2
1840	13	8	1864	5	2	1887	4	4
1841	27	18	1865	10	3	1888	17	2
1842	47	13	1866	20	6	1889	4	3*
1843	22	8	1867	19	4	1890	2	1
1844	22	8*	1868	13	5	1891	6	3
1845	15	3	1869	6	.....	1892	4	1
1846	11	1	1870	3	.....	1893	8	4
1847	10	6	1871	11	3	1894	8	5
1848	6	5						

* One female.

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During the seventy years embraced in the table just given, 2,329 persons were sentenced to death, and of these, 1,736 were condemned during the first eighteen years. For the whole period the executions numbered 639, of which 466 were carried out during the first eighteen years.

A study of the statistics of judicial executions in New South Wales prior to the year 1842 will make it abundantly plain that the barbarous system of taking life for insufficient cause, so far from striking terror into the hearts of would-be criminals, had the effect of lowering the moral tone of the whole community, and, therefore, of making some of its members more prone to commit the very offences which the punishment was intended to prevent. The death penalty is now awarded to murder, attempt at murder, rape, attempt at rape, and setting fire to a dwelling knowing that there is a person therein; it is, however, generally carried out for murder only. The following statement shows the number of convictions and executions for the offences named for a period of twenty-four years :—

Year.	Murder and Attempt at Murder.		Rape.		Attempts at Rape. (Convictions.)
	Convictions.	Executions.	Convictions.	Executions.	
1871	9	3	2	.....	2
1872	14	3	5	.....	4
1873	9	4	1	.....	3
1874	7	2	7	1	10
1875	7	1	1	1	4
1876	12	4	3	.....	3
1877	4	2	5	.....	.....
1878	8	1	4	.....	3
1879	16	.....	5	1	3
1880	15	4	6	.....	.....
1881	3	1	3	1	6
1882	10	3	4	.....	3
1883	8	1	1	.....	3
1884	7	2	1	.....	.....
1885	9	3	2	.....	.....
1886	10	2	12	.....	9
1887	3	.....	1	4*	.....
1888	15	2	2	.....	.....
1889	3	3	1	.....	.....
1890	2	1	1	.....	1
1891	5	3	1	.....	.....
1892	6	1	1	.....	.....
1893	7	4	2	.....	.....
1894	6	5	1	.....	.....

* Mount Reanie case; convicted in 1886.

The last execution for rape took place shortly after the close of the year 1886, when four youths were hanged. Since then, as shown by the table just given, there have been only ten capital convictions for

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rape and for an attempt to commit rape. It would be rash to argue that the executions of nine years ago have exercised a salutary effect upon persons disposed to commit this offence, for there has been no diminution in the number of persons committed for trial. With more reason it might be assumed that juries are loth to convict for rape, knowing that death is the penalty assigned by law as its punishment.

Gaols.

There are in New South Wales 60 gaols of all kinds; of these 8 are principal gaols, 15 minor gaols, and 37 police gaols. There is accommodation for 1,958 prisoners in separate cells, and for 5,189 when more than one prisoner sleeps in a cell, exclusive of the accommodation afforded by 22 separate cells in the lunatic ward of Parramatta Gaol, and of that for 108 prisoners in the "associated huts" at Trial Bay Prison. On the 31st December, 1894, there were 2,602 prisoners, exclusive of debtors, in confinement, thus distributed :—

Prisons.	Prisoners.	Accommodation—one prisoner per cell.	Accommodation—more than one prisoner per cell.
	No.	No.	No.
Principal gaols	2,011	1,471	3,483
Minor gaols	426	264	967
Police gaols	165	223	739
Total	2,602	1,958	5,189

The total number of prisoners received under sentence into the various gaols throughout the Colony during the year 1894 was 13,536, exclusive of debtors. Of these, 5,824 were received at Darlinghurst Gaol, and 2,582 at Biloela Gaol, Sydney. The following table gives the number of prisoners received into gaol under sentence for the last ten years :—

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.
1885	13,045	4,324	17,369
1886	12,650	4,382	17,032
1887	11,554	3,728	15,282
1888	10,519	3,712	14,231
1889	9,299	3,583	12,882
1890	9,203	3,084	12,287
1891	9,553	3,257	12,810
1892	10,677	3,106	13,783
1893	10,704	3,149	13,853
1894	10,436	3,100	13,536

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The returns relating to gaols subsequent to the year 1886 have been subjected to the most careful scrutiny, and may be taken as in every respect correct, but there is no such certainty in regard to the figures of 1886 and previous years, and it is quite possible that, owing to double counting, the totals given above for 1885 and 1886 may be in excess of the truth. When every allowance is made on this score, however, it may be asserted that, in spite of the increase of population, the number of persons received into gaols shows, if anything, an inclination to diminish.

The average number of persons in confinement during the year has not been ascertained, but the number in detention at the close of each year is known, and the figures for ten years will be found in the following statement. Taking one year with another, these figures may be accepted as fairly representing the average daily number for each year given. Prisoners have been classified under two heads—those under sentence, and those awaiting trial. Debtors are excluded, except in 1885, 1886, and 1887, the returns for which years do not allow of the distinction being made. The respective numbers of each of these classes for the period named were:—

Year.	In confinement.			Under sentence.	Awaiting trial.
	Males.	Females.	Total.		
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1885	2,222	337	2,559	2,412	147
1886	2,119	382	2,501	2,387	114
1887	2,053	327	2,380	2,235	145
1888	2,035	309	2,344	2,223	121
1889	2,036	322	2,358	2,233	125
1890	2,138	281	2,419	2,290	129
1891	2,325	291	2,616	2,489	127
1892	2,345	268	2,613	2,484	129
1893	2,232	208	2,440	2,295	145
1894	2,350	252	2,602	2,469	133

As in the case of the arrests, the largest number of prisoners at any age-period are those whose ages range from 25 to 30 years; but pro-

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portionately to the numbers of the population, the ages of middle life, namely, from 30 to 50 years, are most productive of criminals. The following table gives the number and ages of persons sentenced to penal servitude, labour, or imprisonment during the year 1894. Three of the males sentenced to death had the sentence commuted :—

Ages.	To Death.	Sentenced to Imprisonment.							Total Prisoners Sentenced.		
		With Penal Servitude.	With Labour.			Without Labour.					
	Males.	Males.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
6 and under 15 ...	...	.....	28	...	28	35	4	39	63	4	67
15 ,, 20 ...	...	2	240	71	311	419	84	503	661	155	816
20 ,, 25 ...	...	14	461	133	594	525	326	851	1,000	459	1,459
25 ,, 30 ...	2	44	1,248	155	1,403	1,479	439	1,918	2,773	594	3,367
30 ,, 35 ...	3	29	723	171	894	985	435	1,420	1,740	606	2,346
35 ,, 40 ...	...	13	477	112	589	714	366	1,080	1,204	478	1,682
40 ,, 45 ...	2	10	367	78	445	642	192	834	1,021	270	1,291
45 ,, 50 ...	1	7	238	63	301	416	175	591	662	238	900
50 ,, 55 ...	...	7	201	34	235	312	85	397	520	119	639
55 ,, 60 ...	...	1	103	10	113	167	58	225	271	68	339
60 and over	...	6	211	23	234	304	86	390	521	109	630
Totals	8	133	4,297	850	5,147	5,998	2,250	8,248	10,436	3,100	13,536

Taking the returns from all the gaols, it will be found that 9,215 distinct persons were convicted during the year 1894, of whom 7,870 were males, and 1,345 were females. The following table shows the number of distinct persons of the male sex in age groups who were convicted once and more than once during 1894, any convictions they may have undergone in previous years being disregarded. In the figures given hereunder the returns from all the gaols have been combined, and each person is debited with the total number of sentences received, whether served in one or several prisons.

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Ages.	Males Convicted during 1894, with Ages and Number of Times Convicted.														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	17	18	Total.
9	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
10	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
11	7	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
12	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
13	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
14	32	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
15	50	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
16	66	7	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
17	116	13	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	132
18	120	12	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	135
19	109	20	9	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	143
20	124	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	143
21	150	16	4	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	172
22	150	27	7	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	186
23	137	15	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	157
24	127	25	11	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	164
25 and under 30	1,651	315	97	19	10	5	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2,103
30 ,, 35	1,071	182	48	15	4	2	4	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	1,330
35 ,, 40	679	120	29	22	4	3	4	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	865
40 ,, 45	558	114	24	15	4	6	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	725
45 ,, 50	378	56	18	10	6	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	473
50 ,, 55	316	44	14	4	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	386
55 ,, 60	148	29	10	1	3	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	193
60 ,, 65	154	15	15	2	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	189
65 ,, 70	72	16	5	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	95
70 ,, 75	35	5	2	3	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
75 ,, 80	20	6	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
80 and over	8	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Total	6,298	1,063	307	98	45	24	14	5	3	4	3	3	1	1	1	7,870

These figures disclose some interesting facts. It is sad to see that the large number of 116 boys of 15 years and less had to be sent to gaol; but it is well known that the problem of dealing with juvenile offenders is one of the most serious and embarrassing that the magistrates have to cope with, especially as, until August, 1895, there was no Reformatory in the Colony to which boys of the criminal class could be sent. In the absence of such an institution, the magistrates, unwilling to subject boys of tender age to the contaminating influences of a gaol, generally ignored the criminal charges and sent them to the nautical school-ship Sobraon as deserted or neglected children. This, though the lesser of two evils, was manifestly unfair to the class of children for whom the Sobraon was primarily intended, and largely increased the difficulties of its management. Some few years ago extensive buildings were erected at Rookwood for the accommodation of criminal boys, but they were put to other uses. The Carpentarian Reformatory has now been established for boys who have been convicted in the higher or lower Courts. Particulars of the Institution are given under Education and Social Condition and Charities.

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A remarkable feature of the foregoing table is the large number of persons sent to gaol more than once during the year. The prisoners with two or more convictions numbered 1,572, while their convictions were 4,138. The list of second convictions commences with a child of 11 years and ends with six men who had passed their seventy-fifth year; the third convictions are headed by three lads of 16, and so on, as the list shows. One man, whose age was between 45 and 50 years, was convicted no less than eighteen times, and another man, between 35 and 40, was convicted seventeen times during the year. The number of males of 20 years and under convicted of offences was 746, and of these 102 were convicted more than once.

There were 1,345 females imprisoned during the year 1894, of whom the large proportion of 576, or 43 per cent., were convicted more than once. The convictions of girls of 20 years and under numbered 116, and of these 37 were imprisoned more than once. One woman was convicted as many as 18 times during the year, two had 15 convictions recorded against them, and three were convicted 14 times. A woman, whose age was over 80 years, was convicted 8 times during the year. The following table shows the number of females imprisoned, their ages, and number of convictions during the year:—

Ages.	Females Convicted during 1894, with Ages and Number of times Convicted.																
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	18	Total.
6	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
13	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
14	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
15	1	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	1
16	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	4
17	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	. .	...	...	6
18	26	1	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	..	...	33
19	31	5	5	2	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
20	16	4	4	1	...	1	...	...	..	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	26
21	27	5	4	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
22	33	6	1	1	5	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
23	24	14	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	43
24	39	18	6	4	1	2	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	72
25 and under 30	158	41	20	19	11	6	2	...	2	2	1	2	2	1	...	...	267
30 ,, 35	95	33	23	10	7	9	8	4	4	5	3	...	2	1	...	...	204
35 ,, 40	98	37	14	7	7	4	6	5	2	...	1	2	1	1	1	...	186
40 ,, 45	62	19	9	6	7	5	1	1	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	114
45 ,, 50	63	16	7	5	4	4	2	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
50 ,, 55	43	11	5	5	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
55 ,, 60	23	4	3	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	35
60 ,, 65	16	2	2	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	..	1	...	...	...	25
65 ,, 70	3	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	7
70 ,, 75	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
75 ,, 80	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
80 and over	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Total	769	222	113	69	50	39	22	14	14	9	7	4	7	3	2	1	1,345

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The Shaftesbury Reformatory for Girls, situated near the south head of Port Jackson, was originally established for the detention of girls under 16 years of age who had fallen into crime, but it has now been converted into a receiving-house for State children, with a separate division for reformatory purposes. Of this division there were two inmates at the end of 1894. The Reformatory, as well as the Industrial School for Girls at Parramatta, which is not intended for criminal children, is dealt with in the chapter on Social Condition and Charities.

The persons who figure in the two preceding tables as having been convicted several times during the year are the drunkards, the vagrants, and the petty thieves. Naturally the more serious offenders are rarely afforded an opportunity of appearing before the Courts twice in one year.

The punishments awarded to offenders vary from nominal imprisonment to the supreme penalty of death. Prisoners under sentence of hard labour are, after examination by the medical officer, given such work as the prison authorities consider comes within the meaning of the sentence. Penal servitude is not awarded if the term of imprisonment is less than three years. In the case of male prisoners it is taken to mean hard labour on the roads or other public works, and in the case of female prisoners, hard labour in gaol. The punishment is practically the same as that of hard labour. Prisoners undergoing a sentence of imprisonment without labour are treated differently from others, and if they entirely maintain and clothe themselves they are exempted from any work, otherwise they contribute to their own support by performing such labour as may be provided. Under section 405 of the Criminal Law Amendment Act a prisoner who has been convicted of a felony attended with violence to the person, or committed by the offender when armed, or by means of any threat, is liable to be kept in irons for a portion of his term of imprisonment not exceeding the first three years.

A summary of sentences imposed upon offenders affords little clue to the gravity of the offences committed; thus, imprisonment for two days or less was imposed on persons convicted of shooting with intent to murder, wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm, maliciously injuring property, larceny, and concealment of birth. Imprisonment for a period of from six to twelve months was imposed for inflicting grievous bodily harm, resisting the police, assault and robbery, breaking and entering, refusing to pay for liquor, desertion from ship, and breaches of the Chinese Restriction Act, the Landlord and Tenants' Act, and the Licensing Act. The great anomaly disclosed by these sentences might disappear if the circumstances attending each individual case were considered, but the scope of this work only admits of the facts in regard to the sentences themselves being recorded.

The following summaries give a classification for 1894, according to the length of the sentences and the nature of the offences; the two previous tables show the number of distinct persons sentenced, while the

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figures in the two following statements refer to the number of offences punished, the same person in some instances having been sentenced several times in the course of the year :—

Offences.	Total Offences.	Length of Sentences.											
		2 days and under.	3 days and under 1 week.	1 week and under 1 month.	1 month and under 6.	6 months and under 12.	1 year and under 2.	2 years and under 5.	5 years & under 10.	10 years & under 15.	15 years and over.	Until order complied with, &c.	Death.
Offences against the person	1,066	15	9	317	482	60	62	34	8	6	2	63	8
Offences against property with violence	311	5	4	74	81	27	37	51	32	...	...	...	...
Offences against property without violence	2,250	18	23	443	1,133	390	117	102	23	1	...	...	...
Forgery and offences against the currency	72	...	...	...	2	9	18	29	13	1	...	...	...
Offences against good order	5,911	913	1,061	2,475	1,313	115	16	17	1	...	...	...	...
Offences not included in the preceding	826	59	92	359	251	29	18	12	2	...	...	4	...
Total offences committed by males	10,436	1,010	1,189	3,668	3,262	630	268	245	79	8	2	67	8

It will be seen that the sentence of death was passed on eight persons. In five cases it was carried out, and in the other three it was commuted to imprisonment for life. The offences for which the sentence was carried out were murder in three cases, and wounding with intent to murder in two cases, while those for which it was commuted were murder, attempted murder, and rape. Of the persons included in the column "Until order complied with, etc.," two (found guilty of the crime of murder) were sentenced to be imprisoned during the Governor's pleasure. The remainder were almost entirely wife-deserters against whom there were unsatisfied maintenance orders.

The classification of sentences according to their length and the nature of the offences for which females suffered imprisonment in 1894 is given below. In 32 cases only, out of 3,100, was the length of sentence one year or over. The terms for which women are sentenced

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are much shorter than those of men, as their offences, generally speaking, are much lighter:—

Offences.	Total Offences.	Length of Sentences.						
		2 days and under.	3 days and under 1 week.	1 week and under 1 month.	1 month and under 6.	6 months and under 12.	1 year and under 2.	2 years and under 5.
Offences against the person ...	59	1	1	31	21	3	1	1
Offences against property with violence	35	...	...	21	12	1	1	..
Offences against property without violence	157	1	...	41	81	24	7	3
Forgery and offences against the currency	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Offences against good order ...	2,820	226	343	1,479	628	129	14	1
Offences not included in the preceding	27	3	6	5	9	1	3	...
Total offences committed by females	3,100	231	350	1,577	752	158	27	5

Allusion has already been made to the number of persons with more than one conviction recorded against them during 1894. It would be of interest to compare these figures with the records of previous years, but unfortunately those prior to 1889 are not entirely reliable, and are therefore omitted from the following table, which includes also a statement of the average number of offences committed by each person confined:—

Year.	Prisoners sent to Gaol more than once.		Offences Committed.		Average number of Offences Committed.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1889	1,224	663	3,126	2,539	2·6	3·8
1890	1,196	565	3,165	2,201	2·7	3·9
1891	1,285	584	3,431	2,457	2·7	4·2
1892	1,787	586	4,828	2,326	2·7	4·0
1893	1,642	567	4,141	2,328	2·5	4·1
1894	1,572	576	4,093	2,331	2·6	4·0

From the evidence of the above table there would appear to be a constant reappearance of the same faces before the Courts to account for so high an average of reconvictions. The proportion of habitual offenders, if those with previous convictions may be so termed, is

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remarkable, and will perhaps be better illustrated by the following table than by the one just given. The returns, which are approximate only, in each case only include convictions within the year named, convictions in a previous year being disregarded :—

Year.	Percentage of prisoners with previous convictions sent to gaol.	Year.	Percentage of prisoners with previous convictions sent to gaol.
1885	27·0	1890	22·2
1886	26·4	1891	21·3
1887	25·4	1892	26·4
1888	25·3	1893	23·6
1889	22·5	1894	23·3

It is to be regretted that at present there are no means of arriving at the correct number of prisoners sent to gaol with previous convictions recorded against them. The International Union for Criminal Legislation, for the purpose of strengthening society in its defence against "the enemy," recommends the introduction of an elaborate system under which notice of every conviction for crime shall be sent by the police to the office in which the birth of the convicted person was registered, so that the Registrar of the district may be enabled to keep a record of the career of a criminal from birth to death. Apart, however, from the costliness of the system, the times are not yet ripe for such an innovation ; and even if it were adopted, it would be several years before results of any value for statistical purposes could be obtained.

The number of distinct persons committed to gaol under sentence for the past ten years is given in the following table. The number fluctuated considerably during the period under review, but there is ample evidence in this table, taken in conjunction with that on page 599, showing the trials in the superior courts, that crime is steadily diminishing :—

Year.	Persons.	Year.	Persons.
1885	12,429	1890	7,939
1886	11,474	1891	8,791
1887	9,046	1892	8,957
1888	10,096	1893	9,369
1889	8,827	1894	9,215

Under Act 4 Vic. 29 a Visiting Justice is appointed to visit each gaol. He is empowered to hear and determine all complaints which may be made against a prisoner of disobeying the rules of the gaol, or

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of having committed any offence, and may pass a sentence of confinement in a solitary cell for a term not exceeding seven days. In the case of repeated offences, a charge made before two or more Justices of the Peace renders the prisoner liable to a sentence of close confinement for one month; and if the offence has been committed by a prisoner convicted of felony, or under a sentence of hard labour, a punishment of personal correction may be awarded. The gag, which had been introduced to meet the case of refractory prisoners who would persist in the use of offensive language, has now been abolished. The number of punishments inflicted upon refractory prisoners during the last ten years is given as follows:—

Year.	Prisoners punished in gaols.			Percentage of total prisoners punished.
	Solitary confinement.	Other punishment.	Total.	
1885	1,435	399	1,834	9·3
1886	1,420	389	1,809	9·2
1887	1,445	416	1,861	10·5
1888	1,302	246	1,548	9·3
1889	1,195	331	1,526	10·0
1890	1,458	266	1,724	11·8
1891	1,235	304	1,539	10·1
1892	1,412	317	1,729	10·5
1893	1,053	234	1,287	10·9
1894	982	300	1,282	11·0

There were 58 persons imprisoned for debt during the year 1894. As the time of detention as a rule only extended for a short period, the number of debtors in confinement at any one time was not large, and on the 31st December, 1894, there were only 8 persons in gaol for debt. The figures for the last ten years will be found in the following table:—

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1885	50	2	52	1890	59	2	61
1886	61	1	62	1891	45	...	45
1887	48	2	50	1892	54	...	54
1888	56	1	57	1893	55	3	58
1889	71	1	72	1894	54	4	58

The following table gives the number of the prisoners employed in the principal and minor gaols at the end of 1894, and those engaged in the principal callings. In some of the gaols there are no means of finding suitable employment of a profitable or useful nature, otherwise the

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number shown could be very much increased; and it must also be remembered that there are many prisoners whose services are not available for labour, such as those whose sentences do not carry hard labour, and those exempt from work on account of medical and other reasons. The net value of the labour done during 1894 amounted to £51,827 :—

Carpenters and assistants...	42	Bookbinders.....	25
Painters	23	Writers.....	31
Blacksmiths and assistants	37	Washing	72
Tinsmiths.....	17	School assistants.....	7
Masons	12	Hospital attendant	30
Stonecutters and assistants	47	Barbers.....	21
Labourers..... ..	310	Needlework.....	98
Brushmakers	7	Sweepers and cleaners	308
Matmakers	54	Other employments	608
Shoemakers	113		
Tailors	145	Total employed	2,116
Hatmakers	109		

Among those classed in the above table under "other employments" are included 51 prisoners working at the Trial Bay Breakwater. Prisoners under sentence of penal servitude, of hard labour on the roads and public works, or of imprisonment with hard labour, become eligible for employment upon the public works at Trial Bay Prison under the following conditions:—Prisoners under sentence of from three to five years, who have not been punished for misconduct within the previous six months, and are favourably recommended by their gaolers, at a period twelve months before they would become eligible for discharge under the ordinary remission regulations, and in anticipation of such discharge; under sentence of five to ten years, with similar conditions as regards conduct, at a period of eighteen months anterior to discharge; and under sentence of ten years and upwards, at a period of two years anterior to discharge. The construction of the breakwater is being supervised by officers of the Public Works Department, and the prisoners engaged in the work, who are entirely under the control of the Comptroller-General of Prisons, receive a small sum of money, and are supplied with rations, as well as with clothing which is not of the prison pattern.

Besides the foregoing, there were at the close of the year 1894 as many as 329 persons who were not employed; the reasons for such exemption will be found in the following statement :—

In hospitals	50	Incapable	27
In cells	10	Recent arrivals, not set to work	20
Under medical treatment ...	28	Not under sentence (including debtors)	121
Exempt from work	52		
Delegates	13		
Keeping themselves.....	8	Total	329

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Persons awaiting trial are allowed to see their legal advisers and others who may visit them in reference to their trial. It is not required that they should wear prison clothing; and other privileges, consistent with safe custody, are granted to them. Persons under examination are not allowed to have any communication made to them while in the prison except by their legal advisers, unless such a proceeding is specially sanctioned by the Justice conducting the examination.

By continuous good conduct and industry prisoners become eligible for a remission of sentence in accordance with the following scale:—Sentences not exceeding five years, a service of five-sixths of the term; sentences beyond five but not exceeding ten years, a service of four-fifths; and sentences of more than ten years, a service of three-fourths of the term. Prisoners who are serving a sentence of not more than twelve months, or who have had the death penalty commuted, do not enjoy these privileges; but the circumstances of their cases may be considered by the Minister for Justice, who has power to recommend to the Governor, either on his own responsibility or after consultation with his colleagues in Cabinet, the remission of part of such sentences.

Under section 409 of the Criminal Law Amendment Act a prisoner under sentence may be granted a written license to be at large within specified limits during the unexpired portion of his sentence. Sureties are required, unless under exceptional circumstances, for good behaviour and observance of the conditions of the license. The prisoner who is liberated is required to report himself periodically to the police, and is liable to have his license cancelled and to be committed to gaol to undergo the remainder of his sentence upon any breach of the conditions upon which he was released. This system was first adopted in September, 1891, and at the end of 1894 it had been put in force in 49 cases—those of 47 males and 2 females. Of the 49 licenses issued, there were on December 31, 1894, 16 still in force, 24 had expired, and in 7 cases the balance of the sentence had been remitted and the license cancelled, while in only 2 cases was the license-holder returned to gaol to complete his sentence.

When the neglected state in which many of the prisoners are received is considered, it may be said that the death-rate in gaols is light, and it shows, moreover, signs of decreasing. A comparison between the death-rate in gaols and that of the general population it is difficult to make, but it may be said generally that the death-rate of all persons received into gaol is at present not greater than that of the general population of like ages, while the death-rate of habitual criminals is largely below the average. In the following table the number of deaths, exclusive of those resulting from executions, is given for 1875 and subsequent periods, together with the death-rate per 1,000 of the average number of prisoners in confinement during the year. This average has been

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obtained for every year by taking the mean of the numbers in confinement at the end of that year and at the end of the preceding year :—

Year.	Deaths.			Death-rate per 1,000 persons in confinement.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1875	34	8	42	31·50
1880	37	...	37	18·85
1885	39	11	50	19·90
1886	38	10	48	18·97
1887	30	8	38	15·57
1888	30	5	35	14·82
1889	32	3	35	14·89
1890	24	2	26	10·45
1891	37	3	40	15·89
1892	36	4	40	15·30
1893	28	6	34	13·45
1894	22	2	24	8·73

During 1893 and 1894 returns were obtained of the height of all persons committed to gaol, and the following results, which relate to 15,851 males, are given merely as a curiosity of criminal statistics. No comparison with the general population can be made, as no data for such a comparision exist :—

Height.	Age Groups.											Total.
	Under 15.	15 and under 20.	20 and under 25.	25 and under 30.	30 and under 35.	35 and under 40.	40 and under 45.	45 and under 50.	50 and under 55.	55 and under 60.	60 and over.	
Under 4 ft. 6 in. ..	54	10	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	68
4 ft. 6 in.	10	5	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	17
4 ft. 7 in.	10	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
4 ft. 8 in.	15	7	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	.	1	24
4 ft. 9 in.	11	8	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
4 ft. 10 in.	14	17	¬	2	1	1	2	2	1	..	1	41
4 ft. 11 in.	5	17	,3	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	3	39
5 ft.	8	48	10	20	15	10	10	6	5	2	13	147
5 ft. 1 in.	2	60	17	34	21	20	12	19	12	8	17	222
5 ft. 2 in.	6	73	29	90	60	48	48	36	24	14	39	467
5 ft. 3 in.	8	101	71	149	102	73	61	58	38	24	59	744
5 ft. 4 in.	2	124	140	292	195	157	124	89	80	26	99	1,328
5 ft. 5 in.	2	151	219	409	293	216	172	115	99	57	83	1,816
5 ft. 6 in.	1	145	267	593	373	247	206	146	107	59	111	2,255
5 ft. 7 in.	..	149	297	673	422	270	232	171	127	64	110	2,515
5 ft. 8 in.	..	122	259	624	404	254	237	127	103	53	87	2,270
5 ft. 9 in.	..	68	166	529	262	175	156	97	69	46	73	1,641
5 ft. 10 in.	..	84	105	344	185	148	93	60	43	24	36	1,082
5 ft. 11 in.	..	20	62	182	138	75	61	36	29	9	18	630
6 ft.	..	9	38	91	58	38	27	17	10	5	6	299
6 ft. 1 in.	..	2	10	41	32	19	16	10	10	3	4	147
6 ft. 2 in.	..	2	5	15	7	2	7	4	5	1	..	48
6 ft. 3 in.	..	1	..	2	4	1	2	..	..	..	1	11
6 ft. 4 in.	..	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	4
6 ft. 5 in.	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
Total	148	1,175	1,700	4,096	2,577	1,759	1,470	995	763	406	762	15,851

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A similar return relating to 2,733 females committed to gaol during 1893 and 1894 shows the following results :—

Height.	Age Groups.											Total.
	Under 15.	15 and under 20.	20 and under 25.	25 and under 30.	30 and under 35.	35 and under 40.	40 and under 45.	45 and under 50.	50 and under 55.	55 and under 60.	60 and over.	
Under 4 ft. 6 in. ..	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	4
4 ft. 6 in.	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	3	8
4 ft. 7 in.	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	..	1	5
4 ft. 8 in.	..	2	..	1	5	1	4	2	2	1	2	20
4 ft. 9 in.	..	4	5	5	6	6	3	4	2	1	3	39
4 ft. 10 in.	1	4	9	8	18	14	13	6	5	3	7	83
4 ft. 11 in.	..	7	26	19	17	19	16	11	10	5	5	135
5 ft.	..	26	45	52	57	36	41	20	21	17	15	330
5 ft. 1 in.	1	16	68	74	69	85	37	29	16	11	11	417
5 ft. 2 in.	..	34	95	113	72	68	53	46	25	10	14	530
5 ft. 3 in.	2	42	57	85	56	57	44	29	21	5	10	408
5 ft. 4 in.	..	31	71	64	54	37	13	21	13	4	8	316
5 ft. 5 in.	..	13	51	62	23	28	19	13	8	5	1	223
5 ft. 6 in.	..	8	23	34	16	18	25	12	3	1	2	142
5 ft. 7 in.	..	5	10	12	4	6	1	..	3	1	..	42
5 ft. 8 in.	..	..	1	7	3	2	..	2	3	1	..	19
5 ft. 9 in.	..	..	2	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	8
5 ft. 10 in.	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
5 ft. 11 in.	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Total	5	195	464	542	398	377	271	200	133	65	83	2,733

The following table shows the amount expended in maintaining the police and prison services during the last five years, and also the amount of fines paid into the Consolidated Revenue, and the net return from prison labour :—

Expenditure and Revenue.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Expenditure—	£	£	£	£	£
Police	288,823	308,887	323,249	319,626	324,171
Penal establishment	131,003	147,572	156,776	155,173	131,383
Total	419,826	456,459	480,025	474,799	455,554
Revenue—					
Fines	13,618	17,042	15,805	13,981	11,460
Net return from prison labour...	42,406	54,067	52,615	51,400	51,827
Total	56,024	71,109	68,420	65,381	63,287
Net Expenditure	363,802	385,350	411,605	409,418	392,267
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Per Inhabitant	6 7	6 9	7 0	6 8	6 4

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There are two Imperial statutes in force in New South Wales for the surrender of fugitive criminals, viz., the Extradition Act of 1870, and the Fugitive Offenders Act of 1881. The former provides for the surrender to foreign States of persons accused or convicted of certain crimes within the jurisdiction of such States, and for the trial of criminals surrendered to British dominions. Treaties for the extradition of fugitive criminals exist between Her Majesty's Government and the Governments of France, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Brazil, Spain, Italy, Belgium, The Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, Switzerland, Hayti, and the United States of America. In proceedings taken in New South Wales under this Act the fugitive is brought before the Governor, who hears evidence on oath, and, if satisfied that the person is liable to be extradited, makes out a warrant to that effect. At the hearing of the case, the Consul for the country to which the person charged belongs, the Crown Solicitor, and the Inspector-General of Police are present. If a warrant is made out, the prisoner is sent to Darlinghurst Gaol for fifteen days prior to extradition, during which interval he may apply to the Supreme Court for a writ of *habeas corpus*. During the ten years ending with 1894 there were altogether 32 persons extradited, all of whom were escapees from the French penal settlement of New Caledonia.

Under the Fugitive Offenders Act, 1881, provision is made for the surrender from the United Kingdom to a British possession or *vice versa*, or from one British possession to another, of fugitives charged with the commission of offences, which are, in the part of Her Majesty's dominions where they are committed, punishable by imprisonment with hard labour for twelve months or more, or by some greater penalty. Persons apprehended under the Act are dealt with at a Magistrate's Court, and their cases are included in the figures relating to the business transacted at Magistrates' Courts, and not in the returns relating to the Extradition Court.

The Supreme Court—Civil Jurisdiction.

The chief legal tribunal of the Colony is the Supreme Court, which is at present composed of seven Judges, viz., a Chief Justice and six Puisne Judges. Civil actions are usually tried by a jury of four persons, but either party to the suit, on cause shown, may apply to a Judge in Chambers to have the cause tried by a jury of twelve. Twice the number of jurors required to sit on the case are chosen by ballot, from a panel summoned by the Sheriff, and from that number each of the parties strikes out a fourth, the remainder thus selected by both parties forming the jury who are to try the case. The jury are

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constituted the judges of the facts of the case only, being bound to accept the dicta of the Judge on all points of law. From the Court thus constituted an appeal lies to what is called the "Full Court," sitting *in Banco*, which is generally composed of at least three of the Judges. The Chief Justice, or in his absence the senior Puisne Judge, presides over the Full Court, which gives its decision by majority. The circumstances under which new trials are granted are:—Where the Judge has erroneously admitted or rejected material evidence; where he has wrongly directed the jury on a point of law; where the verdict of the jury is clearly against evidence; or where, from some other cause, there has evidently been a miscarriage of justice.

Provision is made for appeals to the Privy Council, but any suitor wishing to carry his cause before the supreme tribunal of the Empire must first obtain leave so to do from the Supreme Court. The amount in dispute must be at least £500, or affect the construction of a New South Wales statute. In other cases application for leave to appeal must be made to the Privy Council itself.

The Chief Justice has also an extensive jurisdiction as Commissary of the Vice-Admiralty Court, in which all cases arising out of collisions, etc., in Australian waters, are determined. One of the Puisne Judges acts as his deputy, but the Supreme Court, as such, has no jurisdiction in Admiralty cases.

One of the Puisne Judges also acts as Judge of the Equity Court, from whose decrees an appeal lies to the Full Court, and thence to the Privy Council.

Affairs in Bankruptcy are also dealt with by a Puisne Judge, assisted by the Registrar. An appeal can be made to the Full Court against the Judge's decision.

Another Puisne Judge presides over the Divorce Court, in which cases are usually tried without a jury, an appeal lying to the Supreme Court.

The Equity Judge formerly represented the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, and heard and decided all applications for the probate of wills and for letters of administration, and also determined suits as to the validity, etc., of wills. By the Probate Act of 1890 this jurisdiction was vested in the Supreme Court in its Probate jurisdiction, and the business transferred to such Judge as might be appointed Probate Judge. Motions for rehearing cases, adjudicated in this Court, are sometimes made before the Supreme Court or Privy Council.

A Judge can only be removed from office upon the address of both Houses of Legislature. Upon permanent disability or infirmity, or

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after fifteen years' service, a Judge is entitled to retire from the Bench with a pension, the amount of which, as well as of his salary, is secured and regulated by various Acts.

A person eligible for admission as a solicitor, provided he has not been admitted in Great Britain or Ireland, or in any of the other Australasian Colonies, must have been articled to some solicitor practising in New South Wales, and have served for a term of five years, or in the case of a person who has taken a degree in Arts before entering into articles, a term of three years, and must have passed the examinations of a Board, consisting of two barristers and four solicitors, appointed annually for that purpose by the Supreme Court. The admission of a solicitor can only take place on the last day of any of the four terms into which the judicial year is divided. A solicitor who ceases to practise for twelve months continuously may be struck off the roll, in which case it is necessary for him to give a term's notice before he can be readmitted. A barrister who has been in practice as such for five years, having caused himself to be disbarred, can, under Act 55 Vic. No. 31, be admitted as a solicitor without examination. Under the provisions of the same Act a solicitor is competent to appear, and has the right of audience, in all courts of New South Wales. The Court can suspend or remove from the roll of solicitors any person who, in its opinion, has been guilty of misconduct or malpractice.

The Board for approval of qualified persons to be admitted as barristers of the Supreme Court of New South Wales, is formed under Act 11 Vic. No. 57, and consists of the Judges of the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General for the time being, and two elected members of the Bar. Applicants must have been students-at-law for three, or in the case of graduates, for two years, and have passed all examinations prescribed by the Board. A solicitor who has been in practice for not less than five years, and who has removed his name from the roll of solicitors, is entitled, under Act 55 Vic. No. 31, to be admitted as a barrister without examination. Admission is made in open Court any day in term by any two Judges sitting together.

At the end of 1894 there were 136 persons practising as barristers of the Supreme Court, while the solicitors numbered 805, of whom 457 were in the metropolitan district, and 348 in various country towns.

Common Law Jurisdiction of Supreme Court.

The following table gives the number of writs issued and the amount for which judgment was signed in the Supreme and Circuit Courts (Common Law jurisdiction) during the last five years. The number of writs issued includes cases which were subsequently settled by the

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parties; the amount of these is not included in the sum for which judgment was signed. The figures given include taxed costs :—

Year.	Writs issued.	Judgment Signed.
	No.	£
1890	5,951	751,825
1891	6,144	537,231
1892	6,219	739,419
1893	6,205	724,211
1894	4,866	489,054

The number of causes set down and tried is shown below :—

Year.	Causes set down.	Not proceeded with.	Causes Tried.			
			Verdict for Plaintiff.	Verdict for Defendant.	Disagreement of Jury.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1890	382	160	174	45	3	222
1891	528	252	204	71	1	276
1892	450	184	212	53	1	266
1893	456	190	197	69	.....	266
1894	492	136	231	64	1	296

Equity Jurisdiction.

The practice and procedure of the Supreme Court in its equity jurisdiction are regulated by the Equity Act, 1880, and subsequent amending Acts. The transactions of the Equity Court during the last five years were as follow :—

Year.	Statements of Claims.	Statements of Defence.	Petitions.	Decrees and Orders.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
1890	224	115	136	644
1891	212	135	137	712
1892	246	103	143	829
1893	240	115	139	835
1894	221	144	112	899

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Probate Jurisdiction.

The number of probates and letters of administration granted by the Supreme Court in its testamentary jurisdiction is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Probates and Administrations—Wills annexed.		Letters of Administration.		Total.	
	Number.	Amount sworn to.	Number.	Amount sworn to.	No. of estates	Amount sworn to.
		£		£		£
1885	961	3,721,805	659	601,542	1,620	4,323,347
1886	1,026	4,726,918	706	768,628	1,732	5,495,546
1887	961	3,621,874	665	641,426	1,626	4,263,300
1888	998	3,652,963	667	638,295	1,665	4,291,258
1889	1,115	4,317,734	682	473,611	1,797	4,791,345
1890	1,131	6,605,545	680	922,577	1,811	7,578,122
1891	1,192	4,734,228	767	722,568	1,959	5,456,796
1892	1,287	4,619,164	842	1,150,163	2,129	5,769,327
1893	1,183	3,508,264	782	635,537	1,965	4,143,801
1894	1,372	4,370,217	791	928,567	2,163	5,298,784

The figures here shown and those dealt with in the chapter on Private Finance as given by the Stamp Duties Department do not agree. The Court gives the gross values of estates, inclusive of those which, after investigation, are found not to be subject to duty, while the Stamp Duties Department returns the net value of the estates, and excludes those not subject to duty. The returns shown above are also swollen to some extent by probates taken out a second time.

Intestate Estates.

An officer is appointed by the Supreme Court under Act 54 Vic. No. 25 as Curator of Intestate Estates. He is empowered to apply for an order to collect the estate of any person who has died intestate, and left real or personal property, and no widow or next of kin resident within the jurisdiction of the Court; or of a person who has died intestate and left no executor, or no executor capable of acting in execution of his will and willing to do so; and in a few other instances. After paying all proved and allowed claims, the Curator pays the balance of the amount realised into the Colonial Treasurer's Curator of Intestate Estates Account. Moneys not claimed within six years are paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund, and used for the public service of the Colony. A rightful claimant may afterwards, however, obtain payment thereof, but without interest from the date of payment into the Treasury. Moneys belonging to minors are paid under order of the Court, and invested in the Savings Bank of New South Wales on account of the children until they arrive at the age of 21.

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The number of estates opened during 1894 was 386, from which the Curator received £17,242, and paid away £5,591; while in connection with estates opened during previous years £31,781 was received, and £46,002 paid away. Commission and fees to the amount of £1,475 were paid into the Consolidated Revenue during the year. The Revenue also benefited to the extent of £6,772 of unclaimed moneys, while claims amounting to £1,703 were received for moneys which had been paid into the Consolidated Revenue.

Bankruptcy Jurisdiction.

The Bankruptcy law is administered by a Judge in Bankruptcy, under 51 Vic. No. 19 and amending Acts. Certain of the powers vested in the Judge are, however, delegated to a Registrar in Bankruptcy, and in the country districts many Police Magistrates and Registrars of District Courts are appointed as District Registrars in Bankruptcy, and have the same powers and jurisdiction as the Registrar in respect to the examination of bankrupts, the issue of summonses, etc. Appeals from decisions of the Registrar or a District Registrar are made to the Judge in Bankruptcy, who also deals with questions relating to priority of claims. When any person becomes embarrassed, or is unable to pay his debts, the law allows him to sequestrate his estate for the benefit of his creditors, or the latter may, under certain specified conditions, apply for a compulsory sequestration. An officer of the Court, termed an official assignee, is deputed by the Judge to manage each sequestrated estate. He receives 2½ per cent. commission on the amount realised and 2½ per cent. on the amount of dividends declared. In some cases the Judge may also award him special remuneration. Creditors have the power to accept, and the Judge to approve, proposals for a composition, or for an arrangement, provided that the scheme has been approved by a majority representing three-fourths of the value of all proved claims. If such a proposal has been accepted, one or two trustees may be appointed in place of, or in addition to, the official assignee. After the acceptance and approval of a composition or a scheme of arrangement, a bankrupt may have his estate released from sequestration. He is also entitled to a release when all the creditors have been paid in full, or when they have given him a legal quittance of the debts due to them. In other cases a bankrupt may give notice by advertisement three months from the date of sequestration of his intention to apply for a certificate of discharge. The application is heard within thirty days of the date of the first publication of the advertisement. The Judge receives a report from the official assignee, and may either grant or refuse an absolute order of discharge, or suspend the operation of the order for a certain time, or grant an order subject to conditions respecting the future earnings or income of the bankrupt.

Statistics of the transactions of the Bankruptcy Court will be found in the chapter of this work dealing with Private Finance.

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Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Jurisdiction.

Prior to the passing of the Matrimonial Causes Act of 1873 (36 Vic. No. 9) the Supreme Court of New South Wales had no jurisdiction in divorce. Under that Act the chief grounds for divorce were adultery since marriage on the part of the wife and adultery and cruelty on the part of the husband. The present Act was assented to on the 9th May, 1892, but did not come into force, owing to an informality, till the 6th August. During 1893 an amending Act (56 Vic. No. 36) was passed. Under these Acts petitions for divorce can be granted for the following causes, in addition to those already mentioned:—*Husband v. Wife.*—Desertion for not less than three years; habitual drunkenness for a similar period; being imprisoned under a sentence for three years or upwards; attempt to murder or inflict grievous bodily harm, or repeated assault on the husband within a year preceding the date of the filing of the petition. *Wife v. Husband.*—Adultery, provided that at the time of the institution of the suit the husband is domiciled in New South Wales; desertion for not less than three years; habitual drunkenness for a similar period; being imprisoned for three years or upwards, or having within five years undergone various sentences amounting in all to not less than three years; attempt to murder or assault with intent to inflict grievous bodily harm, or repeated assault within one year previously. To entitle either party to seek relief on any of these grounds he or she must have been domiciled in the Colony for three years or upwards at the time of instituting the suit, and must not have resorted to the Colony for the purpose of having the marriage dissolved.

In addition to the principal causes for which a divorce may be obtained, judicial separation may be granted for desertion extending over two years. Petitions of nullity of marriage may be granted in cases in which the ceremony is rendered void by the law of the land, or in which some statutory requirements have not been observed, or in which one of the parties is incapable of performing the duties of marriage. The law also provides for suits for the restitution of conjugal rights. Before such a suit can be brought there must have been a request of a conciliatory character to the other party to return to cohabitation.

Further particulars relating to divorce will be found in the chapter dealing with Population and Vital Statistics.

District Courts.

District Courts have been established for the trial of civil causes where the sum in dispute does not exceed £200. They are presided over by Judges who are specially appointed for the purpose, and who also perform the duties of Chairmen of Quarter Sessions, in which capacity they are competent to try all prisoners except such as are charged with capital crimes. District Courts sit during ten months of the year in

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the metropolis, and they are held twice a year in all considerable country towns. The Judge is not ordinarily assisted by a jury, but in cases where the amount in dispute exceeds £20, either of the parties may, by giving notice to the Registrar of the Court, have a jury summoned. On questions of law, and in respect to the admission or rejection of evidence, an appeal lies to the Supreme Court.

The number of suits brought in the District Courts of the Colony, and the mode in which they were tried, are given in the following table for the judicial year terminating at the end of February, 1895 :—

District.	Summonses.						Causes tried.		
	Causes tried.	Causes settled without hearing and not proceeded with.	Causes referred by parties to arbitration.	Causes left in arrear.	Total summonses issued.	Total amount sued for.	Verdict for— Plaintiff.	Verdict for— Defendant.	Total plaintiffs' costs awarded to be paid by defendants.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	£	No.	No.	£
Metropolitan and Hunter	2,826	2,729	...	80	5,635	113,493	2,565	261	9,401
Southern	382	217	3	49	651	16,216	342	40	942
South-western	329	243	2	33	607	21,106	298	31	1,343
Western	393	289	...	68	750	24,884	351	42	1,409
Northern	538	389	3	30	960	32,146	475	63	2,062
North-western	221	133	...	21	375	16,519	190	31	848
Total	4,689	4,000	8	281	8,978	224,364	4,221	468	16,005

Of the 4,689 causes heard during 1894-5, only 53 were tried by jury. During the same period there were 8 appeals from judgments given in District Courts. In 6 of these cases the judgment was upheld, and in 2 cases it was reversed.

Magistrates' Courts.—Small Debts Cases.

As already stated, Magistrates' Courts in the metropolitan district can adjudicate upon cases where the amount in dispute does not exceed £10, and in the country districts upon cases involving an amount not exceeding £30. The total number of small debt cases brought before Magistrates' Courts during 1894 was 35,782, of which 13,830 were heard in the metropolitan courts, and 21,952 in the country courts. Of the metropolitan cases, there were 11,028 in which the amount involved was under £5, and 2,802 in which it was between £5 and £10. Of the cases tried in the country, there were 13,504 in which the amount was under £5 ; 5,033 in which it was between £5 and £10 ; and 3,415 in which it was between £10 and £30.

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PATENTS.

The law relating to the registration of inventions and improvements has been in force since 1853, but it is only within recent years that the provisions of the Act have been availed of to any great extent. In 1879 and 1887 the law was amended and the fees reduced to the nominal sum of £5 for complete Letters Patent, and £2 for a Certificate of Provisional Protection, which latter may, if application be made within twelve months from its granting, be converted into a patent on the payment of an additional £3. The result has been that the business of the Patent Office has greatly increased. The inventions registered in 1894 were for the most part not local but foreign, and this feature has marked the operations of the Patent Office since its inception. The following is the number of patents and assignments thereof for inventions or improvements registered from 1855 to 31st July, 1887, under Acts 16 Vic. No. 24 and 42 Vic. No. 27:—

Year	Number of Registrations.			Year.	Number of Registrations.		
	Patents.	Assignments.	Total.		Patents.	Assignments.	Total.
1855	3	.....	3	1872	43	5	48
1856	1	.....	1	1873	43	6	49
1857	1	.....	1	1874	39	21	60
1858	10	.....	10	1875	34	16	50
1859	11	.....	11	1876	44	18	62
1860	10	.....	10	1877	62	27	89
1861	13	.....	13	1878	45	19	64
1862	14	.....	14	1879	57	16	73
1863	18	4	22	1880	89	23	112
1864	15	2	17	1881	113	13	126
1865	15	5	20	1882	129	21	150
1866	20	5	25	1883	149	24	173
1867	20	4	24	1884	183	29	212
1868	21	2	23	1885	161	27	188
1869	27	5	32	1886	203	31	234
1870	32	4	36	1887	137	21	158
1871	27	5	32				
Total to 31st July, 1887					1,789	353	2,142

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The following have been granted under Act 51 Vic. No. 3 :—

Year.	Letters Patent.	Letters Patent to supersede certificates.	Certificates of Provisional Protection.	Assignments.	Licenses.
*1887	225	12	183	15	.....
1888	490	75	252	58	.....
1889	518	89	278	84	3
1890	494	105	274	100	2
1891	540	101	252	111	3
1892	496	82	208	105	8
1893	366	77	240	113	19
1894	410	81	310	80	44

* From 1st August to 31st December.

The numbers of certificates of Provisional Protection and Letters Patent applied for since the amending Act became law on the 1st August, 1887, are 1,997 and 3,539 respectively, and during 1894 the totals were 310 and 410, while 80 assignments were registered during the latter period. In addition to these, 81 Letters Patent to supersede Certificates and 44 Licenses were registered in 1894. The countries from which applications for certificates of Provisional Protection and Letters Patent in New South Wales were received are as follow :—

Country.	Registered during 1894.	Total registered since the 1887 Act became law.	Country.	Registered during 1894.	Total registered since the 1887 Act became law.
Australasia—			Germany	7	67
New South Wales	300	2,355	Hawaiian Islands	....	2
Victoria	154	1,122	India	....	1
New Zealand	20	128	Italy	....	1
South Australia	30	196	Japan	....	1
Queensland	3	6	New Caledonia	....	3
Tasmania	5	18	Norway	1	1
Western Australia	44	274	Portugal	....	2
United Kingdom	101	851	Russia	1	7
Argentine Republic	....	1	South African Republic	....	4
Austria	2	14	Spain	1	1
Belgium	....	8	Sweden	1	17
Canada	3	25	Switzerland	....	1
Cape of Good Hope	....	3	United States	45	335
Denmark	....	4			
France	2	38	Total	720	5,536

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It will thus be seen that out of the total of 5,536 applications, 2,355, or nearly 43 per cent., were made by persons residing in the Colony, though not necessarily for inventions perfected in New South Wales.

Copyright.

The Copyright Act in force in this Colony was passed on the 14th May, 1879, and became law on the 1st July, 1879. The Act is divided into four parts, dealing with the following subjects :—Part I. Literary, Dramatic, and Musical Works ; Part II. Fine Arts ; Part III. Designs ; Part IV. Miscellaneous Provisions.

Part I provides for the registration of copyright in books or publications, as understood in the widest sense of the term, and for every new edition containing any alterations in the matter ; and also for the registration of playright, or the right of representing or performing dramatic or musical productions, whether previously printed and published or not. In this Colony copyright is registered only for works first published here, and it commences to run on first publication, representation, or performance ; but no remedy can be obtained or legal proceedings taken for anything done before registration. The term of protection is 42 years, or the life of the author plus 7 years, whichever is the longer period. Nothing blasphemous, seditious, immoral, or libellous is entitled to be registered, nor any mere advertisement. Literary works for which registration is sought must be submitted to the Registrar in a complete state as published ; but dramatic or musical works may be in manuscript, which is returned. One of the best copies issued of the first and each subsequent edition of every printed "book" published in the Colony must, within two months of publication, be delivered to the Librarian of the Public Library of New South Wales and to the Librarian of the Library of the University of Sydney. The penalty for default in delivering Library copies is forfeiture of the value of the book and a sum not exceeding £10. Library copies must be delivered whether the book is registered or not. Lectures receive protection without being registered, on compliance with the requirements of the Act ; but lectures are public property if delivered in any University, Public School, or College, or on any public foundation, or by any individual by virtue of or according to any gift, endowment, or foundation. The registration fee is 5s. ; and the fee for a copy of entry, whether required by the proprietor or anyone else, is 3s.

Part II gives copyright in paintings, drawings, works of sculpture, and engravings, including the design thereof, for 14 years, and in photographs and the negatives thereof, for 3 years. The fees to be paid are :—1s. for photographs and their negatives and for chromographic cards, 5s. for other subjects, and 3s. for copies of entry. Copyright in a work of fine art which has not been executed under commission does not of necessity either follow the work or remain with the artist, but ceases to

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exist, unless it has been secured by agreement between the parties, signed at or before the time of the sale or disposition of the original. To entitle a work to copyright it must be new and original, and must have been made in the Colony.

Part III. Under this part of the Act protection can be obtained for new and original designs, not previously published in this Colony or elsewhere, such designs being applicable to articles of manufacture or works of art, whether intended for purposes of utility, ornament, or otherwise. The protection does not extend to the article itself, but only to the design thereof; consequently, it does not apply to any mechanical action, principle, contrivance, application, or adaptation, or to the material of which the article is composed. The substances to which designs may be applied are for registration purposes divided by the Act into fourteen classes, two years' protection being assigned to some classes, and three years to others. The design must be applied within the Colony. The registration fee is 10s., and registered designs must bear a registration mark. If protection is required in more classes than one, it can only be secured by simultaneous registration.

Part IV contains general provisions, and amongst other matters declares copyright to be personal property, assignable at law, and transmissible by bequest, and subject in case of intestacy to the same law of distribution as other personal property.

The Copyright Law of England is comprised chiefly in some fourteen Acts of Parliament, of an unusually obscure and conflicting character, and is extensively elaborated by judicial decisions. Under the "International Copyright Act, 1886," 49 & 50 Vic. c. 33, and the Orders in Council thereunder, the greater part of this body of law, together with the terms of the Copyright Convention of Berne, is made reciprocally applicable to Great Britain and each of her Dependencies, and to the countries that are parties to the Convention, with their Colonies, namely:—Germany; Spain, with her Colonies; France, with her Colonies and Algeria; Great Britain, with her Colonies and Possessions; Belgium, Haiti, Italy, Switzerland, Luxemburg, Monaco, Montenegro, and Tunis—previous copyright treaties being for the most part abrogated.

Copyright when registered in a foreign country is covered by the local law within that country, and by the International Copyright Acts and the Convention thereunder, within the British Dominions, and *vice versa*.

Literary matter published in any part of the British Dominions may now be protected by copyright throughout the whole Dominions, by registering the work in the country of origin if there is a local Registry, or at the London Office if there is not. Proprietorship in registered Colonial copyright can be asserted in any Court in the Dominions by producing a copy of entry issued by the Copyright Office of the country of origin, and authenticated by the Governor or proper Minister of that country.

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The registrations of copyright effected in New South Wales have been :—

	During 1894.	From the passing of the Act in 1879 to 31st December, 1894.
PART I. *Literature* :—		
Printing and publishing right—		
Books	56	495
Periodicals	11	191
Music	27	78
Playright—		
Drama	1	51
Music	2	9
Total	97	824
PART II. *Fine Arts* :—		
Painting	49	67
Drawing	1	50
Sculpture	.....	8
Engraving	2	144
Photography	20	610
Total	72	879
PART III. *Designs*.—Useful, Ornamental, or otherwise	10	387
Grand Total	179	2,090

The yearly receipts since the Act became law, under each head of copyright, were :—

Year.	Literature.			Fine Arts.			Design.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1879	13	14	0	4	18	0	9	19	0	28	11	0
1880	12	8	0	9	6	0	30	8	0	52	2	0
1881	8	3	0	6	11	0	20	8	0	35	2	0
1882	14	2	0	1	19	0	11	13	0	27	14	0
1883	8	4	0	6	5	0	11	14	0	26	3	0
1884	11	10	0	6	17	0	29	8	0	47	15	0
1885	12	8	0	5	17	0	21	18	0	40	3	0
1886	16	9	0	6	12	0	18	1	0	41	2	0
1887	33	10	0	6	19	0	19	13	0	60	2	0
1888	25	8	0	6	8	0	9	3	0	40	19	0
1889	16	17	0	4	6	0	4	10	0	25	13	0
1890	17	6	0	6	7	0	5	1	0	28	14	0
1891	19	1	0	3	1	0	12	13	0	34	15	0
1892	30	10	0	7	15	0	7	10	0	45	15	0
1893	22	11	0	4	5	0	4	15	0	31	11	0
1894	32	11	0	14	15	0	5	0	0	52	6	0
Total ...	294	12	0	102	1	0	221	14	0	618	7	0

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PART XXI.

SETTLEMENT.

THE systems adopted for the settlement of population on the lands of New South Wales have been many, and they have differed widely at various stages of the Colony's progress. In the early days of colonization the Governor had the sole power of granting lands, which he did under prescribed conditions, such as the payment of an annual quit-rent, the cultivation of a certain proportion of the area granted, and other services specified in instructions received from time to time from the Secretary of State. The first instructions issued to Governor Phillip, on the 25th April, 1787, authorized him to make grants only to emancipated prisoners, in the following terms:—"To every male shall be granted 30 acres of land, and in case he shall be married, 20 acres more; and for every child who may be with them at the time of making the said grant, a further quantity of 10 acres, free of all fees, taxes, quit-rents, and other acknowledgments for the space of ten years." The annual quit-rent to be paid on these grants was afterwards fixed at 6d. for 30 acres. The first settler was a prisoner of the name of James Ruse, who, having completed his sentence, entered on his farm of 30 acres at Parramatta on the 25th February, 1789.

Additional instructions were issued by the Secretary of State on 20th August, 1789, extending the privilege of obtaining grants to such of the non-commissioned officers and men of the detachment of marines serving in New South Wales as were desirous of remaining in the territory after obtaining their discharge. The Governor was further requested to facilitate the settlement of free persons who might be disposed to emigrate with the view of becoming settlers in the Colony, by giving them grants of land not exceeding the maximum area granted to non-commissioned officers, viz., 100 acres, subject to the same quit-rent, the annual amount of which was 1s. for every fifty acres, payable at the expiration of five years after the issue of a grant. In the original instructions no mention was made of grants to officers, but this omission was afterwards rectified. These early grants were made on condition that a certain proportion of the land should be cultivated, but although

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this condition was not always complied with, no grants were ever cancelled in consequence. As to the payment of quit-rents, Mr. Commissioner Bigge, in his report on the administration of Governor Macquarie, states that from 1809 to 1823 no quit-rents were collected.

With regard to settlement in the town of Sydney, grants were not made until the year 1811, when the necessary authority to do so was given in a letter from the Secretary of State, dated the 26th July, and allotments were granted on lease only for periods of fourteen or twenty-one years. Previous to the building regulations issued by Governor Macquarie on the 18th August, 1810, no attention was paid to the regular admeasurement of town allotments or to the formation of streets.

Quit-rents on leases and grants of town allotments varied in amount according to the Governor at whose discretion they were imposed. Leases of fourteen and twenty-one years were subject to annual quit-rents of 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and 20s. each; and from 1811 to 1814 grants of town allotments were charged at the rate of 2s. 6d. per rod per annum; but on the 21st March, 1814, the following scale of quit-rents for town allotments was established by Governor Macquarie:—

Gradation.	Leases.		Grants.	
	Sydney.	Other Towns.	Sydney.	Other Towns.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Maximum	2 0 0	1 0 0	3 0 0	2 0 0
Minimum	0 10 0	0 10 0	1 0 0	0 3 4
Above 20 rods, per additional rod, but not exceeding the maximum	0 0 2	0 0 1	0 0 4	0 0 3

The method of disposing of Crown lands, and the scale of quit-rents chargeable, suffered no alteration until the issue of the Government and General Order of the 5th November, 1823. By this order the terms upon which lands could be obtained in New South Wales were modified, the annual quit-rent being raised to 3s. for every 20 acres, payable immediately if the lands had been obtained as an additional grant, but if otherwise at the commencement of the sixth year.

Though a certain limit appears to have been fixed as to the area of grants, the early Governors often overstepped their instructions in this direction. Governor Macquarie, in particular, was deemed to have disposed of the Crown lands in too liberal a fashion, and the result of an investigation into his administration led the British Government to issue to his successors instructions of a more definite and stringent character with regard to the alienation of Crown lands.

The instructions to Sir Thomas Brisbane introduced the principle of alienation of lands by sale to free settlers who arrived in the Colony

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with a certain amount of available capital, and the grants were made on the conditions that a certain proportion of the land should be cultivated, or improvements of corresponding value erected thereon, and a given number of convicts maintained free of expense to the Government. On the 8th November, 1824, it was further proclaimed that a grant of 100 acres would be given to any settler for every convict maintained by him free of expense to the Government; but applications for grants under this condition became so frequent that the order was rescinded on the 16th March, 1826. By a Government and General Order, dated the 24th March, 1825, land was allowed to be sold by private tender at a minimum price of 5s. per acre. The order notified that the Governor would receive applications for the sale of waste lands; but no person was permitted to purchase more than 4,000 acres, nor any family more than 5,000 acres. The price of unlocated Crown lands in the county of Cumberland, or of any of the lands situated on the west of the Nepean River, was raised to a rate ranging from 7s. 6d. to 10s. per acre. The disposal of lands by sale did not, however, interfere with the ordinary method of alienating town allotments and country lands by grants subject to the payment of quit-rents.

The progress of settlement, and the extension of the pastoral industry (which was already taking place) rendered it necessary that some classification of lands should be made in accordance with natural adaptability to the various purposes of colonization. On the 18th May, 1825, instructions were received from the Secretary of State, directing that the Colony should be divided into counties, hundreds, and parishes, and that a valuation should be made of the lands throughout the territory, with a view of fixing an average price at which all the disposable lands should be put up for sale. The grants made thereafter, within the limits in which settlement was allowed, were subject to the payment of a quit-rent of 15s. for every 100 acres, redeemable at twenty years' purchase. Three Land Commissioners (of whom Sir Thomas Mitchell, the Surveyor-General, was President) were appointed on the 10th January, 1826, to give effect to these instructions. The Commissioners completed their labours in about three years, and divided the territory into nineteen counties, covering some 34,505 square miles, or 22,083,200 acres of land. To cover this period certain modifications were introduced; the sale of land was suspended, and the quit-rents charged on grants were altered to a rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the value fixed by the Commissioners, whilst on grants in extension of previous grants, and on lands reserved to settlers for their choice of purchase, a charge was made at the rate of 20s. per 100 acres. On the 28th August, 1828, the quit-rent on primary grants was altered to an annual sum of 2d. per acre, and this rate remained in force until grants were abolished except for public purposes, and the principle of sale by public auction, in lieu of private tender, was made the sole means of alienating Crown lands. The Land Commission was abolished on the 6th May, 1830.

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Great difficulty has been experienced in determining the area granted and sold by private tender from the first settlement to the year 1831, when the system of land alienation by auction sale was introduced; but it has been ascertained from authentic sources that the following areas were disposed of as under:—

	Acres.
Area granted by Governors up to 1810	177,500
do Governor Macquarie, 1810–23	400,000
Area granted and sold, 1824–31	3,386,250
Total	3,963,750

From this total, however, there should be deducted 57,423 acres of land granted in Van Diemen's Land, reducing to 3,906,327 acres the area granted and sold within the present limits of New South Wales.

The system of granting land upon the payment of an annual quit-rent was at all times subject to many difficulties, and the collection of these dues appears to have been carried out in a very perfunctory manner. These difficulties led the Government in later years to offer special inducements for the redemption of quit-rents. On the 9th October, 1846, the following notice was proclaimed:—"All lands for which twenty years' quit-rent has been paid shall be free from further charge, and any persons who have paid more than twenty years quit-rent shall have the difference refunded to them." On the 30th July, 1849, it was further notified that at any time thenceforward any person might redeem his future quit-rent by an equivalent cash payment. Finally, a Government notice of the 13th May, 1851, directed that all quit-rents of a higher annual rental than 2s. for every 100 acres would be reduced to that uniform rate at the expiration of the year 1851; and also that the quit-rents on allotments in country towns would be reduced to one-fourth of the rate fixed in the deeds of grant, with the power of redemption at twenty years' purchase.

With regard to allotments in Sydney and other large towns, which were either granted or leased under the regulations established by Governor Macquarie, the rates levied by him in 1814 were first altered by Sir Thomas Brisbane as follow:—

On leases for twenty-one years	6d. per rod.
On town grants	9d. ,,

A Government order, dated the 29th March, 1829, established the following regulations:—"Upon the approval of applications for town allotments a grant of the *fee simple* will be given, it being the intention of the Government not to issue leases in the future. The rates of annual quit-rents in the several classes of towns shall be as follow:—

1. Sydney	6d.	per sq. perch.
2. Seaport towns	5d.	,,
3. Towns at the head of navigable rivers	4d.	,,
4. Inland towns	2d.	,,

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The said quit-rents shall be unredeemable for ever, but they shall not commence until seven years after the date of authority to take possession, except in the towns of Parramatta and Windsor." Leases were, however, re-established by a Government notice of the 25th August, 1834, by which allotments were allowed to be leased in the country towns only, with covenant to convert the same into grants either upon payment of twenty-one years' quit-rent or upon erection of buildings to the value of £1,000.

Introduction of Land Sales.

The alienation of land to settlers by grant was abolished by Viscount Goderich, Secretary of State for the Colonies. Under the Government and General Order dated the 14th February, 1831, it was notified that no Crown lands were to be disposed of otherwise than by public competition, the minimum price being fixed at 5s. per acre. Settlers were allowed to select within the settled districts only, and the land thus selected was submitted to auction and sold to the highest bidder, the selector being generally the purchaser. In 1839 the upset price was raised to 12s. per acre, and the practice was introduced of varying this minimum according to the presumed value of the land, making it, as a general rule, from 10 to 20 per cent. less than the price of the last land sold of the same quality, and in the same locality. In the Port Phillip district, land was only brought to sale at the discretion of the Governor.

Until the year 1841 regulations for the sale of land were issued by the Secretary of State; but on the 21st August of that year additional instructions were forwarded to Sir George Gipps, stating that in future it should be competent for the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, to revoke the order in force, and to substitute regulations passed by the Colonial Government with regard to the disposal of public lands.

Although grants had been virtually abolished in 1831, a certain quantity of land was still being conveyed to settlers in virtue of promises made by former Governors. The following figures show the area of land granted and sold during the period 1832–1840:—

Year.	Area granted.	Area sold.	Year.	Area granted.	Area sold.
	acres.	acres.		acres.	acres.
1832	15,843	20,860	1837	6,090	370,288
1833	14,639	29,001	1838	63,160	277,466
1834	27,861	91,400	1839	16,832	234,272
1835	5,271	271,947	1840	5,243	105,900
1836	16,132	389,546			

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In addition to the above, there were sold in the district of Port Phillip, or the Southern District, in—

1837	88 acres.
1838	38,694 ,,
1839	38,347 ,,
1840	83,888 ,,

A new division of the territory had been made under the Land Regulations issued by the Governor and Executive Council on the 21st June, 1841, the Northern District including the country around Moreton Bay; the Middle District, the nineteen settled counties; and the Southern District, the Port Phillip settlement and Gippsland. In the Middle and Northern Districts the upset price was maintained at 12s. per acre, but it was raised to 20s. per acre in the Port Phillip District. These Regulations were again superseded by an Act of the Imperial Parliament, entitled "An Act for regulating the sale of waste lands belonging to the Crown in the Australian Colonies," which came into force on the 22nd June, 1842. Under this Act the principle of sale at auction was maintained, but the lands applied for were to be surveyed before being put up at quarterly sale, the upset price being fixed at 20s. per acre, payable forthwith. Blocks of unsurveyed land, containing 20,000 acres or more, could, however, be sold in one lot by private contract at not less than the minimum price.

Under the Imperial Act of the 9th March, 1847, amending the above, a new classification of lands took place, and the territory was again divided into—first, settled districts, including the nineteen counties, and the lands in the counties of Stanley and Port Phillip immediately surrounding the settlements at Moreton Bay and Melbourne respectively; second, intermediate districts, comprising a belt of land from 50 to 200 miles inland beyond the boundaries of the settled districts, and in which pastoral occupation had already spread; and, third, unsettled districts, extending westward to the extreme limits of the Colony. This amending Act did not affect the disposal of Crown lands by public auction or private contract, but it introduced a system of leasing the lands for pastoral purposes, for various terms, in each of the three divisions. During the currency of a lease the land was saleable only to the lessee, and after the expiration of the term the lessee was also allowed a pre-emptive right over all or any part of the land at the upset price of £1 per acre. The legislation of 1847 remained in force in New South Wales, as regards the disposal of public lands by auction sale at £1 per acre, until the year 1861; and in the Colonies of Victoria and Queensland, which were separated from the mother Colony in 1851 and 1859 respectively, until repealed by Acts of the local Parliaments. The following table shows the area of land sold

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and granted in New South Wales from the year 1841 to 1861 inclusive under the regulations above described :—

Year.	Area granted.	Area sold.	Year.	Area granted.	Area sold.
	acres.	acres.		acres.	acres.
1841	18	31,275	1852	57	25,812
1842	15	5,713	1853	612	65,870
1843	7	4,037	1854	2,085	78,221
1844	28	3,701	1855	297	122,667
1845	34	3,763	1856	227	163,952
1846	64	3,036	1857	85	137,867
1847	834	2,602	1858	444	123,548
1848	112	3,232	1859	518	155,171
1849	861	7,341	1860	459	189,937
1850	548	12,191	1861	193	109,217
1851	103	21,747			

From 1841 to 1851 there were also granted and sold in the Port Phillip District the following areas :—

Year.	Area granted.	Area sold.	Year.	Area granted.	Area sold.
	acres.	acres.		acres.	acres.
1841	.....	61,197	1846	6	4,578
1842	4	27	1847	17	26,073
1843	3	831	1848	2	18,007
1844	.....	181	1849	46	28,091
1845	.....	3,685	1850	108	40,043

In the District of Moreton Bay the following areas were sold and granted from its first settlement in 1842 to its separation in 1859 :—

Year.	Area granted.	Area sold.	Year.	Area granted.	Area sold.
	acres.	acres.		acres.	acres.
1842	2	11	1851	5	2,282
1843	16	360	1852	105	739
1844	5	378	1853	70	7,805
1845	1	299	1854	.....	5,175
1846	.....	70	1855	.....	5,285
1847	.....	51	1856	195	3,802
1848	2	240	1857	8	7,235
1849	8	825	1858	9	14,063
1850	4	249	1859	.....	11,620

Thus, from the foundation of the Colony to the inauguration of the legislation of 1861, public lands both in the mother Colony and

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in the territories administered from Sydney had been disposed of as follows :—

Period.	In New South Wales proper.	In Van Diemen's Land.	In Port Phillip District.	In Moreton Bay District.
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
From 1787 to 1823	520,077	57,423	.....	.....
From 1824 to 1836	4,268,750	.....	.....	.....
From the first settlement in Port Phillip in 1837 to 1841	1,110,544	.....	222,214	.....
From the first settlement in Moreton Bay in 1842 to the separation of Port Phillip in 1850	48,119	.....	121,702	2,521
From 1851 to the separation of Moreton Bay in 1859	899,283	.....	.....	58,398
During 1860–61	299,806	.....	.....	.....
Total from 1787 to 1861 inclusive	7,146,579	57,423	343,916	60,919

As regards the area granted and sold in New South Wales proper, under the various systems described in the preceding pages, the 7,146,579 acres disposed of from the first day of the occupation of the territory to the end of the year 1861 were alienated as follow :—

	Acres.
1. By grants and sales by private tender to close of 1831	3,906,327
2. ,, ,, in virtue of promises of early Governors made prior to 1831, from 1832–40 inclusive	171,071
3. ,, sales at auction, at 5s., 7s. 6d., and 10s. per acre, from 1832–38 inclusive	1,450,508
4. ,, ,, ,, ,, 12s. and over per acre, at Governor's discretion, from 1839–41 inclusive	371,447
5. ,, ,, ,, ,, 20s. per acre, from 1842–46 inclusive	20,250
6. ,, ,, ,, and by purchases in virtue of pre-emptive rights, from 1847–61 inclusive	1,219,375
7. ,, grants for public purposes, and for grants in virtue of promise of Governor made prior to the year 1831, and grants in exchange for lands resumed from 1841–61 inclusive	7,601
Total alienated on 31st December, 1861	7,146,579

In dealing with the constitution of rural property in the Colony, it is necessary to mention that, in addition to the modes of alienation of the public lands described in the preceding pages, certain grants were made under special enactments. Instructions issued to Sir Thomas Brisbane directed the Governor to reserve one-seventh of the Crown lands in each county for the purpose of church and school establishments, but these

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instructions do not seem to have been fully carried out, as the reservations did not amount to anything like the proportional area specified. These reserves were as follow:—County of Bathurst, 136,157 acres; Camden, 11,428 acres; Cumberland, 28,081 acres; Cook, 100 acres; Durham, 29,453 acres; Gloucester, 176,091 acres; Hunter, 2,314 acres; Northumberland, 15,362 acres; Roxburgh, 1,000 acres; and St. Vincent, 43,500 acres; making a total area of 443,486 acres. These lands were administered by the Clergy and School Lands Corporation until the abolition of that body by Order of Council of the 4th February, 1833, whereupon all lands vested in the same reverted to the Crown, and an agent was appointed to determine the claims of purchasers, to whom deeds of grant were made, the said lands being secured to them by a subsequent Act of Council dated the 5th August, 1834. Of the area mentioned above, 161,182 acres were alienated up to the year 1880, when, by the Church and School Lands Dedication Act of that year, the balance of 282,304 acres came under the control of that Department to be administered for the purposes of Public Instruction. The unsold Church and School Lands thus transferred are situated as follow:—In the County of Gloucester, 172,297 acres; Bathurst, 83,649 acres; St. Vincent, 18,229 acres; Cumberland, 3,973 acres; Durham, 3,361 acres; Northumberland, 744 acres; Hunter, 48 acres; and Camden, 3 acres.

The Australian Agricultural Company was incorporated by an Act of the Imperial Parliament, dated the 21st June, 1824, and a promise of a grant of 1,000,000 acres made to this Company was fulfilled in the following year. Originally a grant containing 1,048,960 acres was selected in the country surrounding Port Stephens, but in 1832 the Company was authorised to exchange a portion of this grant, containing 600,000 acres, for two allotments situated on the Peel River and on the Liverpool Plains. These three grants contain, according to the latest surveys, the following areas:—

	Acres.
Port Stephens Estate, county of Gloucester	464,640
Peel River Estate, county of Parry	249,600
Warrah Estate, county of Buckland	313,298
Total	1,027,538

In addition to this large area of land, the Company also obtained from the Crown the promise of a lease of the coal-fields at Port Hunter (Newcastle) for 31 years. This was, however, afterwards exchanged for a grant of 500 acres, an area which was increased in 1828 to 2,000 acres of coal land, upon which the Company's collieries are now situated.

Occupation of Pastoral Lands.

The pastoral lands of New South Wales have been occupied under various systems. Land was held for grazing in the early days by virtue of tickets of occupation, which ceased to be issued on the 1st May,

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1827, after which date persons holding such lands were required to pay a quit-rent of 20s. per 100 acres per annum, and to vacate the land on six months' notice. The requirements of the settlers for depasturing their increasing stock induced them to occupy Crown lands without any right except that of first discovery, and as they extended their operations inland the Legislature found itself compelled, on the 28th August, 1833, to pass an Act protecting Crown lands from intrusion and trespass, and commissioners were appointed for the purpose of safeguarding the interests of the State.

The discovery of new country soon had the effect of taking many of the pioneer squatters beyond the limits of settlement as proclaimed on the 14th October, 1829, and without authority or license large tracts of unlocated Crown lands were occupied. Fresh regulations, in which severe penalties were enacted, were issued on the 29th July, 1836, with the view of restraining this unauthorised occupation of the waste lands of the Colony. These regulations being in many cases disregarded, an Act was passed on the 22nd March, 1839, to further restrain this unauthorised occupation; and to provide the means for defraying the expense of police and commissioners appointed by the Government to protect its estate in the border districts, a yearly assessment was levied upon stock at the following rates:—½d. for every sheep; 1½d. per head of cattle; and 3d. for every horse.

The Imperial Act of the 9th March, 1847, which rendered it lawful for the Queen, by any Order in Council, to make and establish such regulations as should seem meet for the sale and occupation of the waste-lands, was immediately followed by an order introducing an entirely different system in legislation for the pastoral occupation of lands in New South Wales. Hitherto the tenure had been a yearly one, and the fee was paid on the extent of land occupied by the squatter. For this system was substituted a fixity of tenure of lease, and the license fee was calculated upon the stock-carrying capacity of the run. Under the regulations issued in 1847, the term of the pastoral leases in the unsettled districts was fixed at fourteen years; in the intermediate division this term was reduced to eight years, and in the settled districts the yearly tenure was retained. The licensing fee was charged at the rate of £10 for 4,000 sheep, or a proportional number of cattle—which was the minimum at which the stock-carrying capabilities of a run could be assessed—and £2 10s. for every additional 1,000 sheep, or proportionate number of cattle, which the run was estimated to carry. In the settled districts lands were let for pastoral purposes only, in sections of not less than 1 square mile in area, the annual rental for each section being fixed at 10s. The holders of alienated lands were permitted to depasture their stock upon Crown lands adjoining their holdings free of charge, this permission, however, constituting only a commonage right. The Occupation Act of 1861, which abolished the Orders in Council, inaugurated a new system, limiting

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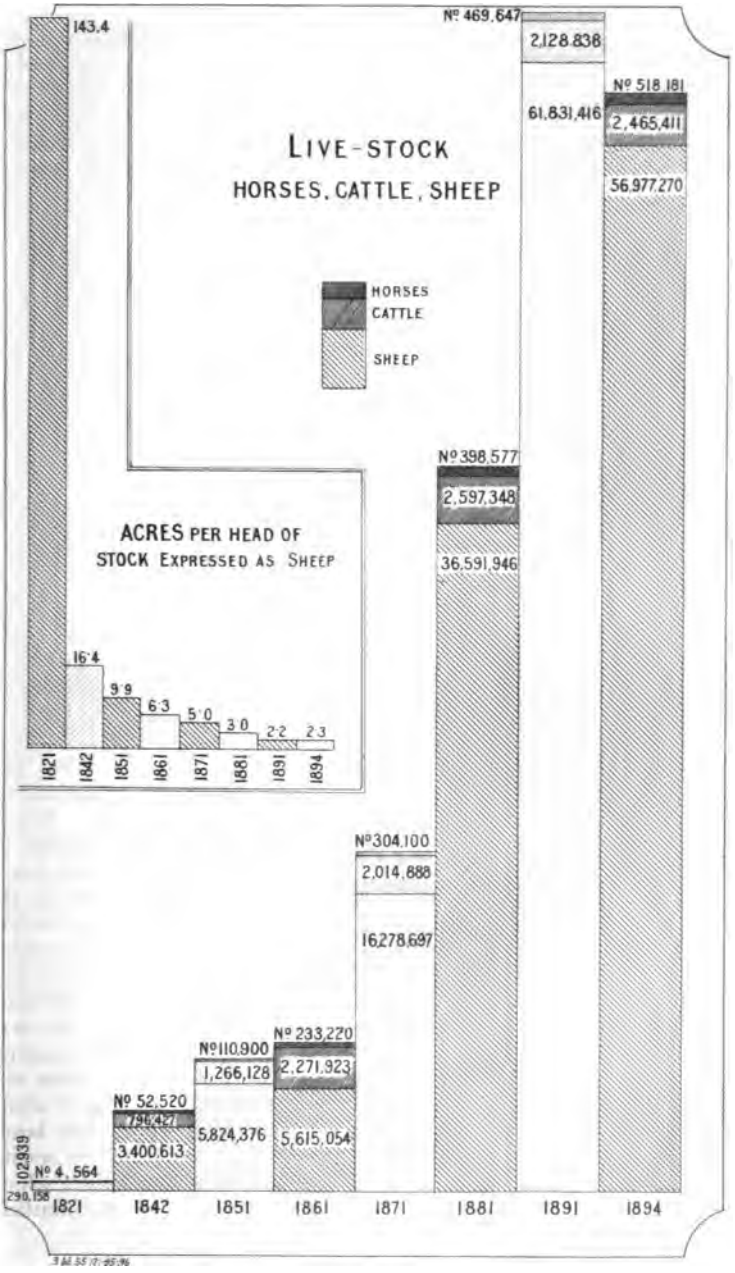

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the tenure of pastoral leases to five years in the unsettled and intermediate or second-class settled districts, and leaving the whole of the pastoral leases open to the operations of the free selectors. The evils resulting from this system led Parliament to adopt in 1884, 1889, and finally in 1895, the measures at present in force, the provisions of which are described further on.

Robertson's Lands Act.

The conditions of colonization greatly altered under the powerful attraction of the gold-fields, and after the first excitement of the rush for gold had died out the question of land settlement had to be dealt with in an entirely new spirit, to meet the wants of a class of immigrants of a different type from those contemplated by former enactments, the result being the passing of the Crown Lands Act of 1861, under the leadership of Sir John Robertson. Before this Act became law the conditions of settlement rendered it difficult for men of small means to establish themselves with a fair chance of success. The new measure aimed at facilitating the settlement of an industrial agricultural population side by side with the pastoral tenants, and with this view the Act introduced a principle entirely new to the land legislation of the Colony, namely, that of free selection, in limited areas, *before survey*. To this privilege was attached the condition of *bona fide* residence, and the land was to be sold at a fixed price, payable by instalments, or partly remaining at interest. The system of unconditional sales was, however, continued, and during the twenty-three years in which the Act of 1861 was in operation there were sold 23,470,140 acres conditionally, and 15,572,001 acres by auction, improvement purchase, in virtue of pre-emptive right, or otherwise without conditions, the total area alienated being 39,042,141 acres. In a very large number of cases the land selected or purchased reverted to the State, so that the absolute area sold or in process of sale when the Act of 1884 came into force amounted to only 32,819,023 acres, besides 7,146,579 acres alienated prior to 1861.

The Crown Lands Acts of 1884 and 1889.

The Act of 1861 was, after many amendments, superseded by that of 1884, with the supplementary enactment of 1889. Though differing widely from the former Act in many important particulars, these measures maintained the principle of free selection before survey, but with one essential difference. Under the original Act the whole area of the Crown lands of the Colony was thrown open to free selection, and the lands held under pastoral lease were not exempted from the operation of this law. While maintaining the principle of selection before survey, the aims of the Acts of 1884 and 1889 were to give fixity of tenure to the pastoral lessees and to obtain a larger rental from the public lands, at the same time restricting the area sold unconditionally. For this last purpose the holder of a pastoral lease under the old Act was

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required to surrender one half of his lease, which was resumed by the Crown for subsequent alienation, leasehold or reserve; the other half remaining in the leasehold occupation of the pastoralist under fixity of tenure for a term of years. It was computed on the 31st December, 1884, when this division was made, that there were within the Colony 4,313 leased runs, yielding an annual rental in round figures of £268,500, and forming about 1,600 "stations," estimated to contain the bulk of the unalienated public estate, after allowing for reserves, etc. That the increase in the revenue from pastoral occupation, which was one of the principal objects of the alterations introduced in the land legislation by the Act of 1884, has been realised, may be gathered from the fact that in 1894 the total rental received from the occupation of Crown lands amounted to £758,726. The Act of 1884 became law on the 1st January, 1885, and that of 1889 came into operation on the 1st December of that year.

The Crown Lands Act of 1895.

Whatever may have been the merits of the Act of 1861, it conspicuously failed to encourage *bona fide* settlement; nor can it be said that the legislation of 1884 and 1889 succeeded where the original Act had failed, as the accumulation of land in large estates continued, while settlement, properly so called, proceeded very slowly. Expert opinion strongly pointed to the necessity of introducing entirely new principles into the agrarian legislation of the Colony, and this has been done in the Crown Lands Act of 1895, which not merely remedies the defects of previous legislation, but, while placing land within easy reach of all, seems to supply, by the introduction of new systems of tenure, viz., homestead selections and settlement leases, something that was needed to transform the land speculators into settlers properly so called.

For the purpose of carrying out land legislation, there are three Land Divisions in the Colony, viz., the Eastern, the Central, and the Western. These are subdivided into Land Districts; and a Land Agent, whose duty it is to receive applications for land in accordance with certain regulations, resides in each district. Groups of these districts are joined together under an administrative Board, and form what is called a Local Land Board District. The Land Board consists of a chairman and one or two assessors. An appeal to the Land Court may be made against a decision of the Board. This Court is composed of a President and two members appointed by the Executive, whose decisions in matters of administration have the force of judgments of the Supreme Court; but whenever questions of law become involved, a case may be submitted to the Supreme Court, either at the written request of the parties interested, or by the Land Court acting of its own accord. The judgments given on such appeals are final. The conditions of alienation and pastoral occupation of Crown lands differ in each of the three divisions of the Colony.

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The Eastern Division has an area of 60,452,000 acres, and includes a broad belt of land comprised between the sea-coast and a line nearly parallel thereto. This line starts from a point midway between the small settlements of Bonshaw and Bengalla on the Dumaresq River, on the northern frontier, and terminates at Howlong on the River Murray, and thus embraces the coastal district of the Colony, as well as the northern and southern tablelands. In this division lie all the original centres of settlement, and the markets of the Colony are more readily accessible to it than to the other districts. In it, moreover, is to be found some of the best agricultural land of the Colony. For these reasons, the conditions for the purchase and occupation of the Crown lands in the Eastern Division are more restricted than is the case in the Central and Western Divisions.

The Central Division of the Colony embraces an area of 55,460,000 acres, extending from north to south between the western limit of the Eastern Division and a line starting from a point on the Macintyre River, where it is crossed by the 149th meridian of east longitude, and following this river and the Darling to the junction of Mara Creek; thence along that creek to the Bogan River, and across to the River Lachlan, between the townships of Euabalong and Condobolin, along the Lachlan to Balranald, and thence to the junction of the Edward River with the Murray, on the frontier of Victoria. The Central Division thus embraces the upper basin of the Darling River in the northern part of the Colony, and portions of those of the Lachlan, the Murrumbidgee, and the other affluents of the Murray in the south. The land in this division is mainly devoted to pastoral pursuits; but experience having proved that agriculture can be successfully carried on, the area cultivated has considerably increased. The rainfall, however, being less regular, and the distance from markets greater than in the Eastern Division, and the land, moreover, being of inferior value, the legislation provides for the selection of larger areas than in the latter district.

The Western Division comprises the whole of the land situated between the western limit of the Central Division and the South Australian border. It embraces an area of 79,970,000 acres, watered by the Darling River and its tributaries. This part of New South Wales is essentially devoted to pastoral pursuits. Water conservation and irrigation may in time counteract climatic conditions and irregular rainfall, and make agriculture possible over this large area, as its soil is adapted to the growth of any kind of crop; but legislation in regard to the occupation of the lands of the district is based upon the assumption that for many years to come there will be little inducement for agricultural settlement.

Under the provisions of the various Acts forming the legislation now in force, land may be acquired as an alienation in the following manner:—(1) By conditional purchase; (2) by auction sale; (3) by purchase in virtue of improvements; (4) by special purchase; and (5) by exchange.

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The most important of these forms is that of conditional purchase. The new system of homestead selections is practically a form of alienation, the tenure being freehold, subject to an annual charge in perpetuity.

With regard to the leasing of Crown lands, the different forms of occupation are—(1) Conditional leases; (2) settlement leases; (3) improvement leases; (4) pastoral leases; (5) homestead leases; (6) occupation licenses; (7) annual leases; (8) scrub and inferior land leases; (9) snow-land leases; (10) residential leases on mining fields; and (11) mineral leases.

Conditional Purchases.—An ordinary residential conditional purchase may be obtained in the Eastern and Central Land Divisions, but not in the Western Division, by any person of or over the age of 16 years, with the usual legal qualifications. Ordinary Crown lands are open to selection at a price of £1 per acre. A deposit of 2s. per acre and a survey fee, according to a fixed scale, must be paid at the time of application. The balance, with interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, is payable in thirty instalments of 1s. per acre, covering principal and interest, the first instalment being due at the expiration of the third year. In the Eastern Division the maximum area which can be selected is 640 acres, and the minimum 40 acres; in the Central Division the maximum is 2,560 acres. Every residential conditional purchase carries with it the right of taking up a conditional lease, which, however, cannot exceed three times the area of the conditional purchase, and the total area of both purchase and lease cannot exceed 1,280 acres in the Eastern Division or 2,560 acres in the Central Division.

The holder is required to reside upon his selection for a continuous term of ten years from the date of application, and residence must commence within three months after the application has been confirmed by the Local Land Board. Within three years from the date on which the application is confirmed the land must be enclosed with such a fence as the Board may prescribe; or, at the selector's own option, substantial and permanent improvements may be substituted for fencing. Application may also be made for the suspension of the conditions of residence and of fencing or improvements for a period not exceeding six months; and the suspension of payment of instalments for a period not exceeding twelve months may be granted by the Minister.

Additional purchases may be made until the maximum area is reached, and each additional conditional purchase is subject to the conditions of residence, but the place of residence may be on any of the blocks selected, and in certain cases the additional residence is not insisted upon.

At the expiration of five and ten years from the date of application, inquiries are made by the Land Board, and if the conditions have been satisfactorily fulfilled certificates are issued. A conditional purchase may be transferred after the issue of the first certificate—that is, after five years' residence. After the issue of a certificate of conformity, any purchase of land of 100 acres or more in extent may be subdivided, the balance paid on a portion, and the deed obtained for that part.

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The following table shows the total amount payable as principal and interest every year on a selection of 40 acres, the price of which, without interest, is £40. It will be seen that the amount of interest payable is £24 1s. 3d., making a total of £64 1s. 3d., or £1 12s. 0¼d. per acre.

When due.	Payments.			How each payment is applied. Interest, 4 % for 1 year.			How each payment is applied. Principal.			Balance owing.			Amount upon which interest is charged.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposit of 2s. per acre	4	0	0	.....			4	0	0	36	0	0	.....		
Instalment of 1s. per acre at end of 3rd year	2	0	0	.....			2	0	0	34	0	0	.....		
,, 4th ,,	2	0	0	1	7	3	0	12	9	33	7	3	34	0	0
,, 5th ,,	2	0	0	1	6	9	0	13	3	32	14	0	33	7	3
,, 6th ,,	2	0	0	1	6	2	0	13	10	32	0	2	32	14	0
,, 7th ,,	2	0	0	1	5	7	0	14	5	31	5	9	32	0	2
,, 8th ,,	2	0	0	1	5	0	0	15	0	30	10	9	31	5	9
,, 9th ,,	2	0	0	1	4	5	0	15	7	29	15	2	30	10	9
,, 10th ,,	2	0	0	1	3	9	0	16	3	28	18	11	29	15	2
,, 11th ,,	2	0	0	1	3	2	0	16	10	28	2	1	28	18	11
,, 12th ,,	2	0	0	1	2	6	0	17	6	27	4	7	28	2	1
,, 13th ,,	2	0	0	1	1	9	0	18	3	26	6	4	27	4	7
,, 14th ,,	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	19	0	25	7	4	26	6	4
,, 15th ,,	2	0	0	1	0	4	0	19	8	24	7	8	25	7	4
,, 16th ,,	2	0	0	0	19	6	1	0	6	23	7	2	24	7	8
,, 17th ,,	2	0	0	0	18	8	1	1	4	22	5	10	23	7	2
,, 18th ,,	2	0	0	0	17	9	1	2	3	21	3	7	22	5	10
,, 19th ,,	2	0	0	0	16	11	1	3	1	20	0	6	21	3	7
,, 20th ,,	2	0	0	0	16	0	1	4	0	18	16	6	20	0	6
,, 21st ,,	2	0	0	0	15	0	1	5	0	17	11	6	18	16	6
,, 22nd ,,	2	0	0	0	14	0	1	6	0	16	5	6	17	11	6
,, 23rd ,,	2	0	0	0	13	0	1	7	0	14	18	6	16	5	6
,, 24th ,,	2	0	0	0	11	11	1	8	1	13	10	5	14	18	6
,, 25th ,,	2	0	0	0	10	9	1	9	3	12	1	2	13	10	5
,, 26th ,,	2	0	0	0	9	7	1	10	5	10	10	9	12	1	2
,, 27th ,,	2	0	0	0	8	5	1	11	7	8	19	2	10	10	9
,, 28th ,,	2	0	0	0	7	2	1	12	10	7	6	4	8	19	2
,, 29th ,,	2	0	0	0	5	10	1	14	2	5	12	2	7	6	4
,, 30th ,,	2	0	0	0	4	6	1	15	6	3	16	8	5	12	2
,, 31st ,,	2	0	0	0	3	0	1	17	0	1	19	8	3	16	8
,, 32nd ,,	2	0	0	0	1	7	1	18	5	0	1	3	1	19	8
Final payment	0	1	3	.....			0	1	3	.....			.....		
Total	64	1	3	24	1	3	40	0	0	.....			.....		

Non-residential Conditional Purchases.—Any person of or over the age of 21, who has never taken up an ordinary residential conditional purchase, may take up a non-residential conditional purchase in either the Eastern or the Central Land Division. The maximum area is 320 acres, and the conditions are the same in both divisions. The price

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per acre, and the amount of the deposit and of the instalments, are double those fixed for an ordinary residential conditional purchase, but the scale of survey fees is the same. This form of selection does not entitle the purchaser to hold a conditional lease. The land must be fenced in within twelve months from the date of confirmation; and within five years from that date the holder must satisfy the Board that permanent improvements (not including the boundary fencing) have been made to the value of £1 per acre. If the substitution of other improvements in lieu of fencing be obtained in connection with a non-residential conditional purchase, the sum expended must be at the rate of 30s. per acre. The only addition which a holder can make to his purchase is by increasing it to the maximum area.

Conditional Purchases within Special Areas.—Special areas may be reserved from the operations of the ordinary conditional purchase clauses of the Act, and thrown open to selection under different terms as to payment, with or without the condition of residence; but in such special areas the price of the land cannot be less than £1 10s. per acre if the selector elect to fulfil the condition of residence, while a non-resident purchaser is charged double that price. The maximum and minimum areas that may be selected within special areas are always specified in the proclamation throwing the lands open, but the maximum cannot exceed 320 acres in the Eastern Division, nor 640 acres in the Central and Western Divisions. The deposit required is also stated in the proclamation, being generally one-tenth of the price, and the instalments are one half the amount of the deposit. The conditions to be fulfilled are similar to those of the ordinary residential and non-residential conditional purchases. Conditional leases can be taken np within special areas only in the Central Division, and a conditional lease of ordinary Crown lands cannot be taken up by virtue of a purchase within a special area.

The following is the scale of survey fees for conditional purchases of any description :—

Area.	For an Original Conditional Purchase.			For an Additional Conditional Purchase or Conditional Lease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
For any area not exceeding 4 acres.	1	0	0	0	15	0
For every additional acre, or fraction of an acre, up to 10 acres	0	3	4	0	2	6
For 10 acres	2	0	0	1	10	0
For every additional acre, or fraction of an acre, up to 20 acres	0	2	0	0	1	6
For 20 acres	3	0	0	2	5	0
For every additional acre, or fraction of an acre, up to 40 acres	0	1	0	0	0	9

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Area.	For an Original Conditional Purchase.	For an Additional Conditional Purchase or Conditional Lease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
For 40 acres	4 0 0	3 0 0
For every additional 5 acres, or fraction of 5 acres, up to 80 acres	0 2 6	0 1 10½
For 80 acres	5 0 0	3 15 0
For every additional 10 acres, or fraction of 10 acres, up to 320 acres	0 2 6	0 1 10½
For 320 acres	8 0 0	6 0 0
For every additional 15 acres, or fraction of 15 acres, up to 640 acres	0 2 6	0 1 10½
For 640 acres	10 15 0	8 1 3
For every additional 20 acres, or fraction of 20 acres, up to 1,280 acres	0 2 6	0 1 10½
For 1,280 acres	14 15 0	11 1 3
For every additional 40 acres, or fraction of 40 acres, up to 2,560 acres	0 2 6	0 1 10½
For 2,560 acres	18 15 0	14 1 3

Auction Sales.—Crown lands may be submitted for sale by auction in each Land Division, but not more than 200,000 acres can be thus alienated in any one year. The area of town lots is limited to half-an-acre each, and the upset price cannot be less than £8 per acre; suburban lots cannot be sold in areas exceeding 20 acres, or at a lower upset price than £2 10s. per acre; country lots cannot exceed 640 acres, and the minimum upset price is 25s. per acre. Under ordinary auction sales the payment must be completed within three months, but arrangements may be made under a system of deferred payments, the minimum prices, however, not being less than those given above. In every case a deposit of 25 per cent. must be paid, and the payments cannot extend over a longer period than five years. Deferred payments bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

Improvement Purchases.—Persons who, by virtue of a miner's right or business license issued under the Mining Act, are in authorized occupation of and residing on land within a proclaimed gold-field may, in consideration of improvements made thereon, apply to the Local Land Agent for permission to purchase the land without competition at a price to be fixed by the Land Board.

Special Purchases.—Reclaimed lands, unnecessary roads, water frontages, land to which no way of access is obtainable, land insufficient in area for conditional purchase, and other areas of a similar nature, may be sold to the holder of the adjacent property without competition, and in all such cases the price is fixed by the Land Board.

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Volunteer Land Orders.—Any person who was enrolled as a volunteer between the years 1868 and 1875, and underwent five years' continuous training, is entitled to a free grant of 50 acres open for conditional purchase; but this form of alienation is now virtually extinct, only seven grants being made in 1893, and none during 1894. The orders are transferable.

Exchanges.—Under the 46th section of the Act of 1889 provision is made for the surrender of land in certain cases in exchange for land of equal value, and without any monetary consideration.

Homestead Selections.—The acquisition of land in this manner is a feature of the Crown Lands Act of 1895, and a distinct departure from old forms. Tracts of land are surveyed and valued, and all particulars are notified in the *Government Gazette* and a local newspaper. For a period of forty days after being gazetted, these areas remain open for additional conditional purchase by holders residing on adjacent conditional purchases. Any person of or over 16 years of age, and possessing the usual legal qualifications, is entitled to apply for a homestead selection. The area that may be selected is fixed according to the capabilities of the land; but in no case can it exceed 1,280 acres, and the selector is bound to take the block he applies for as it is gazetted—he cannot take a portion only. The tenure is freehold, subject to rent and residence in perpetuity. At the time of application six months' rent is required. The survey fee is on the same scale as that fixed for conditional purchases, one-third being payable on application, one-third at the end of twelve months, and one-third at the end of the second year. Until the grant is issued the rental is 3d. in the £ (or 1¼ per cent. on the capital value of the land); after the issue of the grant the rent is 6d. in the £ (or 2½ per cent.) The original valuation stands for fifteen years, after which a fresh appraisement is made every ten years. The only condition required by the Crown by way of improvement is the erection of a dwelling-house of the value of £20, and residence must commence within three months from the date on which the application is confirmed. The house must be erected within eighteen months, and afterwards maintained in good order. The obligation of perpetual residence is a provision made to ensure the land being used for the purpose intended, and as a guard against monopoly; nevertheless, under certain circumstances, the condition of residence may be relaxed. The interest of a holder is liable to be forfeited for non-fulfilment of conditions or non-payment of rent. After five years the holding may be transferred, but the condition as to residence attaches to each successive transferree. Tenant right in improvements is given if the selection is surrendered or forfeited. Any improvements which may be on the land when it is selected must be paid for at their appraised value in four equal yearly instalments, with interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum.

If a number of homestead selectors desire to form a village adjacent to their holdings, the condition as to residence on the holdings may be

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dispensed with at the discretion of the Governor, and residence in such village or settlement substituted, subject to such conditions as may be prescribed.

The homestead selector may avail himself of the privilege of protecting his holding, so that it cannot be sold under a writ of execution or taken from him in the case of insolvency, but to effect this protection the selector must be solvent at the time when he applies for registration. Should a holder be compelled by adverse circumstances to abandon his selection, a certificate to that effect may be obtained, qualifying him to apply for another selection.

In the case of persons desirous of making a home on the land, but who for a time are debarred by their present calling or other circumstances from taking up their residence thereon, provision is made for residence by a deputy, who must be approved, however, by the Local Land Board, and the applicant must satisfy the Board that it is his intention subsequently to reside on the land. The following special conditions are imposed in such cases :—(1) The full amount of survey fee must be paid at the date of application ; (2) the rent chargeable before the issue of the grant is 3½ per cent. of the capital value ; (3) the value of the dwelling erected must be £40 ; and (4) within three years one-tenth of the area must be in full tillage, and during the fourth and fifth years this area must be increased to one-fifth.

Conditional purchases may be converted into homestead selections, the purchase money being taken as the capital value, and a rent of 2½ per cent. computed thereon for the first ten years.

The inducement offered to persons of slender means by this system, and the advantages which the homestead selector has compared with the holder of a conditional purchase, are very apparent. For instance, the amount payable during the first year on a homestead selection of 640 acres, valued at £1 per acre, is only £10 13s. 9d., while in the case of a conditional purchase, the same area would entail an expenditure of £74 15s. The improvements which have to be effected under a conditional purchase are not required on a homestead selection, and the land of the homestead selector, as has been stated, cannot be taken from him under any legal process. From the eagerness with which the areas already offered have been taken up, there is no doubt that this form of acquiring land will be largely availed of.

Conditional Leases.—Crown lands open to ordinary conditional purchase in the Eastern and Central Land Divisions are available for conditional lease in connection with residential conditional purchases, excepting within special areas in the Eastern Division. The area of any conditional lease cannot exceed three times that of the conditional purchase or purchases in right of which it is applied for, and cannot be less than 40 acres ; nor can the combined area of the purchase and lease exceed 1,280 acres in the Eastern Division, or 2,560 acres in the Central Division. The land applied for must also adjoin the condi-

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tional purchase by virtue of which it is granted. The lease has a term of twenty-eight years, and pending appraisement a provisional rent of 2d. per acre is payable annually. The first appraisement made by the Land Board stands for fifteen years, and for the remaining period the land is subject to a reappraisement.

As conditional purchases cannot, under existing legislation, be taken up in the Western Division, there can be no conditional leases obtainable there. The conditional leases current in this division were taken up prior to 1884.

At any time during its currency a conditional lease or any portion of it may be converted into an additional conditional purchase, and as this right is almost invariably availed of, the land held under conditional lease may practically be considered as alienated.

Settlement Leases for Agriculture and Grazing.—These areas, like homestead selections, are specially set apart by notification in the *Government Gazette.* The land is measured, and each portion is valued according to its capabilities and situation. Areas set apart for agricultural purposes cannot exceed 1,280 acres, but for grazing purposes the maximum is 10,240 acres. The term of a lease is twenty-eight years, and the annual rent is 1¼ per cent. on the capital value. Six months' rent, together with the prescribed survey fee, must accompany the application. The appraised value of improvements on the land when taken up, with interest at 4 per cent. per annum, may be paid in three equal yearly instalments. The conditions are continuous residence during the term of the lease, and the enclosing of the holding within five years from the issue of the lease; the lessee is also required to conform to any regulations made regarding noxious animals and the clearing of scrub, and such other provisions as may be deemed expedient in the public interest. The lease cannot be assigned or sub-let without the consent of the Minister. During the last year of the term the lessee may apply for that part of the lease on which his residence stands as a homestead selection, the area not to exceed 1,280 acres.

The following is the scale of survey fees for settlement leases. In any case where the cost of survey proves to be less than the scale rates, the difference may be refunded:—

	£	s.	d.
Up to 2,560 acres, as for an original conditional purchase (*see* page 648.)			
For 2,560 acres	18	15	0
For every additional 40 acres up to 3,840 acres, 2s. 6d.			
For 3,840 acres	22	15	0
For every additional 40 acres up to 5,760 acres, 2s.			
For 5,760 acres	27	11	0
For every additional 40 acres up to 7,680 acres, 1s. 6d.			
For 7,680 acres	31	3	0
For every additional 40 acres up to 10,240 acres, 1s.			
For 10,240 acres	34	7	0

Improvement Leases.—This form of lease, like settlement leases and homestead selections, is an introduction of the Crown Lands Act of 1895. The lands which may be taken up are comprised of scrub and inferior

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land in any division. They are disposed of either by auction or tender, and in no case can the area of a lease exceed 20,480 acres. The term of a lease is twenty-eight years; the rent is the amount bid at auction or accepted by tender, but an upset price may be fixed, and the Governor is not bound to accept any tender. The provisions made for the improvement of the land vary according to the circumstances of each case, and the last holder has tenant-right in improvements. Residence on the land is not compulsory; but if the lessee resides thereon he may, during the last year of the term, make application to convert the residential portion into a homestead selection; but the area cannot exceed 640 acres, and must carry improvements to the value of £1 per acre.

Pastoral Leases.—The largest areas taken up for pastoral purposes are held under this form of lease. Under the Act of 1884 the large holdings of the squatters were each divided into two portions, called respectively the resumed area and the leasehold area. The resumed area was leased under occupation license, renewable annually, but the land remained open for selection under conditional purchase and conditional lease. The leasehold area was returned to the lessee, who was entitled to hold it for a fixed term of years, varying in each Land Division. In the Eastern Division the pastoral leases expired in 1890, and they cannot now be renewed, nor can fresh areas be leased. In the Central Division pastoral leases terminated in 1895, but in accordance with the privilege granted under the Act of 1889, a great number of the leases have been extended for short periods, varying from one to five years. Provision has, however, been made in connection with these renewals for the withdrawal of such portions as may be required under other forms of settlement. After due inquiry by the Land Board, the Minister can authorise the division of the area into two parts as nearly equal as is practicable, and the portion from which withdrawals may be made is subsequently defined. By way of compensation for such withdrawals, a further extension of time is given for the remainder of the lease.

The pastoral leases in the Western Division were, under the Act of 1884, given a currency of fifteen years, which was increased to twenty-one years by the Act of 1889, and by the Crown Lands Act of 1895 the term was further extended to twenty-eight years, calculated from the commencement of the lease. The rent of each lease varies with the appraised value of the land, and lessees have tenant-right in improvements. The resumed area may be amalgamated with the leasehold area in cases in which the Local Land Board, after inquiry, is satisfied that such resumed area is not required and is not likely to be required for settlement before the expiration of the pastoral lease. Withdrawals of portions of the pastoral leases for settlement purposes may be made in the Western Land Division as in the Central; but the maximum area which can be withdrawn is limited to one-eighth of the leasehold, and the land must not be more than 10 miles distant from the boundary of a town containing at least fifty inhabitants.

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Occupation Licenses.—Land held under occupation license consists mostly of the resumed areas of pastoral holdings divided by the Act of 1884, and the expired leases of the Eastern and Central Divisions. Land withdrawn from pastoral lease for settlement in the Central and Western Divisions may also be held under occupation license. A pastoral lessee in the Central Division has a preferential right to an occupation license of any area formerly held by him under pastoral lease, and in both the Central and Western Divisions this privilege extends to land withdrawn from the existing lease for settlement purposes. The license is annual, covering the calendar year, and the fee is payable at the time of granting or renewing the license.

Artesian Well Leases.—Holders of occupation licenses or annual leases may take up artesian well leases. Only one such area may be leased out of each 64,000 acres held under occupation license, and not more than three areas out of the same occupation license, the total extent of an artesian well lease being limited to 10,240 acres.

Homestead Leases.—This form of lease is granted for the resumed areas or the vacant lands of the Western Division only; lands held under annual lease or occupation license are, therefore, open to homestead lease. The minimum area obtainable is 2,560 acres, and the maximum, 10,240 acres. If the maximum area is not taken up in the first instance, additions may be made until that area is reached, but these additions may not consist of less than 2,560 acres, except in certain cases, when the minimum additional area may be 640 acres. Additional leases terminate on the same date as the original lease, and have consequently a shorter term. The term of lease is twenty-eight years, and the rent is appraised every seven years. A deposit of 1d. per acre, with £10 on account of survey fee, is required on making the application. Within sixty days from the date on which the lease is gazetted the balance of the cost of survey is due; and the rental is payable annually in advance. Continuous residence for six months in each year for the first five years is required. Residence must commence within ninety days from the approval of the lease; but the lessee may, at his own risk, enter into occupation immediately after making application. The date of commencing the six months' residence in any year must be previously notified to the Local Land Board. The boundaries of the land must be enclosed within two years from approval of the lease with such a fence as the Board may prescribe; upon satisfactory cause being shown, however, a suspension of the conditions as to residence and fencing may be obtained, and an extension of time granted. The Local Board is empowered to make inquiry as to whether the conditions have been adhered to by the lessee, and the lease is liable to forfeiture in the event of their non-fulfilment. Arrangements for the sub-letting of homestead leases are required to be in writing, and a certified copy of the document sent to the Chairman of the Local Land Board, any disregard of this regulation being taken as evidence that the lease is not held

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in good faith. After the conditions as to residence are fulfilled the lease is transferable. The portion of the lease on which the lessee has his dwelling may, during the last year of the term, be applied for as a homestead selection.

Annual Leases.—Crown lands which are not held under other forms of lease, and are not exempt from lease, may be let on annual lease in any Land Division by auction or tender, or upon application, in areas not exceeding 1,920 acres; and lands reserved from sale are not withheld from annual lease. The minimum rental cannot be less than £2 for every 640 acres or lesser area. An original lease dates from the first day of the month following its notification in the *Gazette*, or if the land has been leased at auction, the first day of the month following the date of sale; but the first year expires on the 31st December, rent being charged only for the number of months during which the leasehold has been occupied, so that all renewals of leases cover the calendar year. Improved lands let on annual lease are subject to an additional rent for the use of improvements, and where the improvements do not belong to the Crown an agreement has to be come to by the parties concerned, failing which an appraisement is made by the Land Board. The improvements must be of a fixed and substantial character and necessary for the occupation of the land, and before valuation the owner may, with the permission of the Board, take away such as are of a removable nature.

Scrub Leases.—Lands, whether vacant or otherwise, wholly or partly covered with scrub or noxious undergrowth may, upon the recommendation of the Local Land Board in any district, be declared scrub lands, and after notification in the *Government Gazette*, may be leased by auction or tender, or upon application, for such periods, not exceeding twenty-one years, as the Minister may deem expedient. Under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, however, the leases of scrub and inferior lands may, upon application, be extended by the Governor to twenty-eight years, the term allowed for improvement leases. Until they are leased in this form, scrub lands cannot be withdrawn from any lease or license under which they may be held; and if the lands form part of a homestead or a pastoral lease, the scrub lease can only be granted to the homestead or the pastoral lessee; but a homestead or a pastoral lessee cannot take up a scrub lease outside his own holding, and the term of his scrub lease expires with that of his homestead or pastoral lease. During the whole currency of a scrub lease, the land cannot be made available for purchase or other form of lease. The conditions are that the holder shall take such steps for the destruction of the scrub and noxious growth as the Board may direct, and shall afterwards keep the land free from such growth. These operations must be commenced within three months from the date of the lease, and in case of non-fulfilment of conditions or non-payment of rent the lease is liable to be cancelled and all improvements forfeited to the Crown.

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Leases of Inferior Lands.—Vacant lands of an inferior character or in isolated positions, and which have not been held under any form of tenure or have been abandoned, may be offered for lease by notification in the *Government Gazette.* Within thirty days after this notice has been given the land may be leased by auction or by tender, subject to the conditions specified in the *Gazette*, the upset rental being fixed by the Minister on the report of the Local Land Board. A lease of any such land which has been put up at auction may upon application be obtained at the upset rental. The term of lease is twenty years or under; but the Governor has power, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, to extend the time to twenty-eight years.

Snow-land Leases.—Vacant lands, or lands held under annual lease or occupation license, which are usually covered with snow during a part of each year and are unfit for continuous use or occupation, may, on the recommendation of the Land Board, be submitted by the Minister for lease by auction. The minimum area which can be thus leased is 1,280 acres, and the maximum area, 10,240 acres. The first year's rent, together with the survey fee, is due at the time of sale. The period of lease is seven years; but on application not later than twelve months before the expiration of that time, an extension of three years may be granted, subject to re-appraisement of rental, notice of which is given twelve months prior to the expiration of the lease. No person can hold more than two areas under snow-land lease.

Residential leases on Gold and Mineral Fields.—Any holder of a miner's right or mineral license is entitled to apply for a residential lease of vacant lands not exceeding 20 acres in extent, within any proclaimed gold or mineral field. Applications must be accompanied by a deposit of £1, the prescribed survey fee, and a provisional rent at the rate of 1s. per acre or part of an acre. The lease may be granted for any term not exceeding fifteen years, and is held subject to the following conditions:—The lessee must, during the whole currency of the lease, hold a miner's right or mineral license. He must make the leasehold his usual and only home, and residence must commence within three months from the date of notification of the lease. Within twelve months he must, if such improvements are not already existing, erect such buildings and fences as are required for the actual residence upon and the beneficial use of the land. Any portion of the land which in the opinion of the Minister is required for mining or public purposes, may be withdrawn from the lease. Any duly authorised person may enter on the land for the purpose of seeking work or winning gold or other mineral, and the residential lease confers on the holder no right to do this himself—he must procure the necessary authority before he may do so. Other conditions which may be imposed are specified in the notification. On the expiration or withdrawal of the lease the lessee has tenant-right in improvements.

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Cost of Administration.

The following statement shows the cost of the administration of the Lands Department during the period 1885–94, covering the operations of the Lands Acts of 1884 and 1889:—

Year.	Cost of Survey of Lands.	Expenditure for General, Miscellaneous, and Special Services.	Total Cost of Administration.
	£	£	£
1885	315,357	174,568	489,925
1886	378,085	172,167	550,258
1887	299,370	180,011	479,381
1888	248,661	205,747	454,408
1889	223,059	243,378	466,437
1890	224,096	174,284	398,380
1891	232,672	170,495	403,167
1892	209,735	200,859	410,594
1893	180,325	181,135	361,460
1894	155,184	163,145	318,329

Progress of Alienation.

The growth of land alienation under the legislation of 1861 and its subsequent amendments, and the operations of the settlers under the Acts of 1884 and 1889, in the matter of unconditional settlement, are summarised below:—

Mode of Alienation.	Lots.	Area.
Sales by auction—	No.	acres.
Town	33,769	16,197
Suburban	13,265	65,807
Country	61,324	9,191,353
Total sales by auction	108,358	9,273,357
Selection after auction	15,750	1,716,976
Sales by virtue of improvements	24,173	2,785,997
,, by virtue of pre-emptive rights	2,114	560,825
,, of unnecessary roads	965	7,447
,, of water reservations	203	647
,, by special appraisements	243	1,968
,, of reclaimed lands	555	937
Grand total of unconditional sales	152,361	14,348,154

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As regards conditional sales, the following were applied for under the various Acts since the date of the Crown Lands Act of 1861 :—

				Selections applied for.		
				No.		Acres.
Under the Crown Lands Act of 1861—						
To May 24, 1880				136,402	...	14,982,120
Under the Crown Lands Act of 1880—						
	No.		Acres.			
1880 (from May 25)	4,927	...	694,951			
1881	14,220	...	2,329,202			
1882	14,606	...	2,392,218			
1883	10,674	...	1,617,712			
1884	10,657	...	1,453,937			
Total				55,084	...	8,488,020
Total to December 31, 1884				191,486	...	23,470,140
Under the Crown Lands Acts of 1884 and 1889—						
	No.		Acres.			
1885	5,377	...	1,165,351			
1886	6,080	...	963,197			
1887	4,769	...	793,004			
1888	5,364	...	865,199			
1889	6,205	...	903,160			
1890	8,526	...	1,713,577			
1891	6,153	...	1,303,094			
1892	4,396	...	816,399			
1893	3,393	...	533,805			
1894	2,617	...	414,355			
Total				52,880	...	9,471,141
Grand total to December 31, 1894				244,366	...	32,941,281

The number of selections cancelled, forfeited, lapsed, and declared void, together with the balance of such voidances, etc., and that of increased over decreased areas, amounted to 74,767 conditional purchases, covering 10,154,362 acres, thus reducing to 169,599 lots and 22,786,919 acres the number and area of selections which remained in existence at the close of the year 1894. Deeds have now issued upon 21,634 completed purchases, covering 2,470,314 acres, so that the number of purchases still standing good, but upon which the conditions have not been fulfilled, is 147,965, covering an area of 20,316,605 acres.

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In addition to the alienation of land by conditional and unconditional sales, the following were granted under the Volunteer Land Regulations of 1867 :—

Year.	Area of Volunteer Land Orders granted.	Year.	Area of Volunteer Land Orders granted.
	acres.		acres.
1871	6,049	1884	4,500
1872	7,317	1885	1,936
1873	2,880	1886	740
1874	7,756	1887	1,797
1875	14,498	1888	1,433
1876	18,758	1889	783
1877	14,079	1890	882
1878	13,022	1891	1,100
1879	26,506	1892	590
1880	18,886	1893	350
1881	13,876	1894	Nil.
1882	5,649		
1883	4,358	Total	167,745

The following table shows the area of land granted for general and religious purposes from 1862 to 1894 :—

Year.	Area of Grants.	Year.	Area of Grants.	Year.	Area of Grants.
	acres.		acres.		acres.
1862	857	1874	6,626	1886	11,100
1863	808	1875	673	1887	5,377
1864	301	1876	5,557	1888	3,310
1865	2,855	1877	2,899	1889	1,902
1866	12,288	1878	1,811	1890	1,566
1867	13,935	1879	21,762	1891	916
1868	11,310	1880	20,637	1892	8,735
1869	3,672	1881	7,113	1893	5,833
1870	11,970	1882	1,969	1894	41,678
1871	4,319	1883	2,535		
1872	1,969	1884	6,626	Total	225,925
1873	2,535	1885	481		

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The operations of the various Orders, Regulations, and Acts of Council and of Parliament for the disposal of the public lands, since the foundation of the Colony, have given the following results :—

	Acres.
Area granted and sold by private tender and public auction at prices ranging from 5s. to 20s. per acre, prior to the year 1862	7,146,579
Area unconditionally sold, 1862–1894 inclusive	14,348,154
Area conditionally sold, for which deeds have issued, 1862–94 inclusive	2,470,314
Area granted under Volunteer Land Regulations of 1867 to 31st December, 1894	167,745
Area granted for public purposes, 1862–94	225,925
Total area covered by deeds	24,358,717
Area in process of alienation under system of deferred payments standing good on 31st December, 1894	20,316,605
Total alienated or in process of alienation	44,675,322

It has been found impracticable to separate the area alienated by grant from that sold by private tender, as the records of early years are incomplete upon this point.

The following statement shows the amount paid for lands purchased from the State from the year 1821 to the end of 1894 :—

Period.	Amount received.
	£
1821–1861	3,785,002
1862–1871	2,359,548
1872–1881	17,015,358
1882–1891	13,917,457
1892–1894	3,823,437
Total received	40,900,802
Less refunds	1,377,415
Net amount received ...£	39,523,387

This includes £18,327,081 paid on account of conditional purchases. The amount outstanding on conditional purchases at the end of 1894 was £13,608,038, making the total amount paid and owing on all lands sold £53,131,425.

The area leased to pastoral tenants and others at the end of 1894 comprised 125,587,540 acres (including leases to miners under the Mining Act) and was subdivided as follows :—

	Acres.
Pastoral Leases	57,597,391
Occupation Licenses	38,904,516
Conditional Leases	12,870,191
Homestead Leases	9,860,013
Annual Leases	5,428,083
Other Leases	841,228
Leases under the Mining Act	86,118
Total	125,587,540

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The total available area of the Colony is 195,882,150 acres, and deducting the area sold, 44,675,322 acres, and the area leased, 125,587,540 acres, making a total of 170,262,862 acres, there remained a balance of 25,619,288 acres, representing the area of country neither alienated nor leased, including roads, unoccupied reserves, and land unsuitable for settlement.

Area Available for Settlement.

Attention has of late again been directed to the question of land legislation, as it was rightly contended that the Lands Acts of 1884 and 1889 had failed to prevent the accumulation of enormous landed estates in the hands of a very limited number of proprietors, backed up by the great financial institutions of the country. Although it may be said in defence of the policy pursued by this class of landowners that in many cases it was forced upon them by the defective nature of legislation, which failed to discriminate between the very different interests of the pastoralists and the agricultural settlers, it must have been nevertheless patent to everybody that the rate at which these immense alienations of the public estate were being carried on threatened in a very short period of time to place formidable difficulties in the path of healthy settlement. The Acts mentioned have now, however, been superseded by the Crown Lands Act of 1895, which came into operation on the 1st June. As has already been shown, many radical changes in land legislation have been effected by this Act; but it must be borne in mind that immediate remedial action can only be taken in connection with that portion of the Crown lands which has not yet been alienated, or leased to Crown tenants for a definite period of years. Leases granted under certain conditions, such as those attached to conditional leases, which carry with them the right of purchase at any time during their currency, may be considered to be in effect a form of alienation, as but a comparatively small portion of these areas is ever likely to return to the public estate. Lands under homestead lease in the Western Division, scrub lands, snow-covered areas, and inferior lands leased for long periods of fixed tenure, as well as pastoral leases renewable for long terms, form another category of lands upon which past legislation lays a prescriptive claim. The area which can be beneficially affected by the Act of 1895 is, therefore, limited to the area which is unalienated, or for which contracts have not been entered into, further reduced by the excision of reserves for public purposes, for goldfields and other forms of mining enterprise, and for railways and other purposes. At the close of 1894 there were 24,358,717 acres absolutely alienated, for which deeds had issued; 20,316,605 acres conditionally sold, the conditions of purchase not being complete; and 12,870,191 acres leased with the right to purchase; in all, 57,545,513 acres which had been placed entirely beyond the scope of the Act of 1895 or future legislation.

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The areas under long contracts of lease, in some cases with right of renewal, which no legislation can affect until the expiration of the fixed period of their tenure, are given below :—

	Acres.
Homestead Leases for 28 years	9,860,013
Scrub Leases for 21 years, with right of renewal for a further period of 7 years	177,104
Snow Leases for 7 years, with right of renewal for a further period of 3 years	107,890
Leases of inferior lands, etc., for 20 years, with right of renewal for a further period of 8 years	542,845
Pastoral Leases in Western Division for 28 years	38,980,499
Mining Leases	86,118
Total	49,754,469

The entire area affected by existing contracts amounts, therefore, to 107,299,982 acres, and these figures show how greatly the extent of territory to which new legislation is immediately applicable has diminished. Of the balance, amounting to 88,582,168 acres, a large portion comprises reserves of various kinds; and if allowance be made for mountainous and other sterile lands, it will probably be found that the area suitable for occupation which the State has to offer intending settlers is somewhere about 63,000,000 acres. A further reduction must be made in order to arrive at the area available for immediate occupation, as in the Central Division a very large area has been renewed for various short periods in accordance with the privilege granted under the Crown Lands Act of 1884. Leases of the following areas will expire and become available for settlement during the years mentioned :—

Year.	Acres.	Year.	Acres.
1895	3,767,145	1900	10,444,633
1896	516,644	1901	46,053
1897	1,226,315		
1898	1,338,559	Total	18,555,501
1899	1,216,152		

Including the area which will fall in during 1895 (3,767,145 acres), the total extent of country open to the immediate influence of recent legislation is limited, therefore, to but little more than 48,000,000 acres. From a careful computation the area estimated to be immediately available would appear to be distributed in the following proportions within the three great divisions of New South Wales :—

	Acres.
Eastern Division	12,294,757
Central ,,	11,547,424
Western ,,	24,318,954

Under present conditions the Western Division is not suitable for agricultural settlement, and the area, therefore, left open to the operations of the small settler combining agriculture with pastoral pursuits does not exceed 24,000,000 acres, or about one-eighth of the territory of New South Wales.

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The progress of alienation and conditional settlement by purchase and lease at various periods from 1861 to 1884, and annually since the last-mentioned year, is shown in the following table :—

At end of year.	Area Alienated for which deeds have issued.	Area Conditionally Purchased, standing good on 31st December.	Area Conditionally Leased on 31st December.
	acres.	acres.	acres.
1861	7,146,579	.....	.....
1871	8,630,604	2,280,000	.....
1881	22,406,746	12,875,392	.....
1884	22,779,733	16,158,588	.....
1885	22,872,366	16,554,900	1,900,800
1886	22,991,208	16,945,579	3,955,200
1887	23,106,700	17,262,567	4,802,560
1888	23,259,048	17,499,655	6,121,600
1889	23,442,013	17,920,002	6,928,804
1890	23,615,720	19,048,085	9,903,949
1891	23,775,410	19,805,892	11,234,131
1892	23,937,392	20,115,467	14,370,803
1893	24,138,576	20,214,361	12,707,423
1894	24,358,717	20,316,605	12,870,191

As already pointed out, the land held under conditional lease is virtually alienated, seeing that the holder has the right of converting his lease into a freehold at any time during its currency.

Effects of Land Legislation.

The lands specially referred to in the following examination are those included in rural holdings over 1 acre in extent, from which the agricultural and pastoral production of the country is obtained, municipal areas being dealt with separately as regards extent and revenue in another part of this volume. In the preceding pages an account has been given of the old methods of land alienation, and of the various Acts of Parliament which now regulate the division of the public estate among the settlers; the object of the examination which follows is to show what have been the effects of past and present legislation upon the settlement of the territory.

When the agitation which culminated in the framing of the Crown Lands Act of 1861 was in progress, it was contended that the Orders-in-Council then in force favoured the occupation of the country lands by the wealthier classes, and the principles of free selection before survey and of deferred payments were introduced in the new legislation with the object of facilitating the settlement of an agricultural population side by side with the great pastoral tenants of the Crown. The statistical records for the year 1861 show that at the close of that year, and just before the new legislation had come into force, there were already 21,175 holders of rural lands, of whom 17,654 were located in the old settled districts, comprising twenty counties, grouped around

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three pricipal c entres—the metropolis and the county of Cumberland, the Hunter River Valley, and that portion of the central tableland of which Goulburn, Bathurst, and Mudgee were the first towns; while the remaining 3,521 settlers were scattered over the pastoral districts. The figures showing the area held by these settlers do not discriminate between the land alienated and that occupied under lease from the Crown; but they show that in the old settled districts there were some 254,347 acres under cultivation—or an average of 14 acres per holding—and 8,522,420 acres used for stock; whilst in the pastoral districts 43,228 acres were cultivated, and 54,716,463 acres were occupied for grazing; so that at that time 63,536,458 acres, representing about one-third of the territory of the Colony, were already in the occupation of the settlers.

In addition to the clauses inserted in the Act of 1861 in the interests of colonists of small means, certain provisions were retained which secured the interests accrued to the pastoralists under former legislation, of which they availed themselves to the utmost. By means of auction sales of country lands at the upset price of 20s. per acre, of unconditional selections of lots not bid for at auction, of purchases made in virtue of improvements, and of the right of pre-emption to certain lands under the old Acts of Council, the accumulation of immense estates was greatly facilitated. The sales of lands subject to conditions of residence and improvements, though ostensibly made to foster the settlement of a numerous class of small farmers, were also availed of in the interests of station owners, to whom the purchases were transferred in great numbers immediately upon completion of the conditions of residence and improvements required under the Act. The evils resulting from the antagonistic interests of these two classes of settlers were partly checked by the amended law of 1884, which put a stop to the wholesale alienation of land by auction, unconditional selection after auction, and sales in virtue of pre-emptive rights. The clause relating to improvement purchases was also modified, and made to apply only to small areas in gold-fields which might be purchased by resident miners in virtue of certain improvements; and the area offered at auction sales was restricted to a maximum of 200,000 acres yearly; but conditional settlement was favoured by permitting the maximum area allowed to be taken up by free selectors to be considerably increased, the conditions of residence being increased to five years instead of three, and the fulfilment of the conditions of fencing and improvements rendered more stringent.

These regulations, however, did not, in any sense, fulfil the expectation of the legislators in regard to settling a yeomanry upon the soil, as the figures relating to transfers of conditional purchases published further on will show that when other means of increasing the area of individual estates failed, the traffic in transfers of conditionally-purchased lands, with increased areas, supplied the deficiency. What effect the radical

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changes introduced by the Land Act which has just come into force will have remains to be seen, but there is little doubt that great improvement will result from the new system.

The principal element which contributed to the aggregation of great landed estates was that of auction sales of country lands, which were measured in vast areas upon the application of the run-holders, who bought them up generally at the upset price—at first a minimum of £1 per acre, raised in 1878 to £1 5s. per acre.

The following analysis of the different methods by which lands have been alienated will account for the present state of rural settlement. Particulars of the auction sales of country lands from the year 1862 to 1894 inclusive are given hereunder:—

Year.	Lots.	Total Area.	Amount realised.	Average Price per Acre.		
	No.	acres.	£	£	s.	d.
1862	532	29,729	33,208	1	2	4
1863	765	15,392	18,163	1	3	7
1864	542	31,393	35,549	1	2	0
1865	1,289	63,303	71,532	1	2	7
1866	901	65,799	68,197	1	0	9
1867	806	70,701	75,432	1	1	4
1868	729	50,636	52,169	1	0	7
1869	1,236	93,428	96,364	1	0	8
1870	797	51,722	54,010	1	0	11
1871	1,034	49,303	50,270	1	0	5
1872	697	61,073	61,595	1	0	2
1873	2,274	274,581	278,110	1	0	3
1874	4,064	580,753	596,785	1	0	6
1875	6,658	978,377	992,786	1	0	3
1876	8,040	1,685,650	1,707,323	1	0	3
1877	8,390	1,829,613	1,838,457	1	0	1
1878	4,564	861,049	1,071,486	1	4	10
1879	2,012	353,372	447,557	1	5	4
1880	2,082	346,679	419,523	1	4	2
1881	2,691	523,657	616,309	1	3	6
1882	2,474	503,547	630,494	1	5	0
1883	226	25,826	41,268	1	11	2
1884	397	38,215	72,412	1	17	11
1885	51	1,654	5,513	3	5	10
1886	793	58,088	109,627	1	14	8
1887	1,124	103,748	158,747	1	10	7
1888	1,781	100,128	230,294	2	6	2
1889	482	18,430	42,389	2	6	3
1890	686	66,160	113,795	1	14	5
1891	703	44,348	89,139	2	1	8
1892	896	80,062	148,115	1	17	0
1893	1,019	91,964	175,115	1	18	1
1894	698	42,973	86,125	2	0	1
Total or average	61,324	9,191,353	10,478,768	1	2	7

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These figures show that the struggle between selector and squatter did not begin in earnest until about the year 1873, when the effects of the legislation of 1861 were felt in an acute form; but during the ten years that followed, this process of defence was applied in a wholesale manner by the pastoral tenants to save their possessions from encroachment through the operations of the selectors. The system was modified by the legislation of 1884, the object of auction sales of country lands now being to obtain revenue by the sale of select parcels of land at a higher average price and in much smaller average areas. Since the year mentioned, this system of alienation has ceased to be of use in consolidating large pastoral estates.

Among other means offered for the unconditional purchase of Crown lands, that of selection at the upset price of lots not bid for at auction also disappeared with the passing of the Act of 1884. The following table shows the results of this system of purchase during the period 1862 to 1883, when it was in operation:—

Year.	Lots.	Total Area selected.	Year.	Lots.	Total Area selected.
	No.	acres.		No.	acres.
1862	477	22,347	1874	1,112	98,850
1863	362	17,384	1875	1,343	101,718
1864	248	12,388	1876	1,126	95,681
1865	251	12,582	1877	1,364	158,844
1866	332	16,413	1878	893	122,812
1867	270	15,803	1879	.....	.....
1868	283	18,589	1880	182	39,408
1869	545	39,085	1881	1,605	328,203
1870	367	23,375	1882	2,240	353,093
1871	340	23,700	1883	209	31,381
1872	929	83,733			
1873	1,272	101,587	Total.....	15,750	1,716,976

From a comparison of the above figures with those shown in the preceding table, it will be seen that during the years 1881 and 1882 this form of unconditional purchase was largely availed of to supplement the direct purchases at auction.

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The lands claimed in virtue of a pre-emptive right, a form of alienation which was also abolished by the Crown Lands Act of 1884, added the following quota to the areas bought in the interests of the pastoralists :—

Year.	Lots.	Total Area sold.	Year.	Lots.	Total Area sold.
	No.	acres.		No.	acres.
1862	117	30,619	1874	.....	.....
1863	217	58,032	1875	.....	.....
1864	47	13,128	1876	780	189,664
1865	75	23,459	1877	367	81,193
1866	76	25,616	1878	15	4,063
1867	78	30,039	1879	25	6,033
1868	139	52,260	1880	30	6,912
1869	18	7,617	1881	35	7,461
1870	9	3,718	1882	29	5,183
1871	21	8,623	1883	23	2,338
1872	9	3,379			
1873	4	1,488	Total.. ...	2,114	560,825

An examination of the figures in the tables just given shows that during the ten years from 1873 to 1882 the area alienated principally with the object of consolidating pastoral properties, and of securing them against the operations of conditional purchasers, amounted to 11,189,082 acres, made up as follows :—

Year.	By Auction Sales (Country Lots.)	Unconditionally sold by Selection.	Improved Lots sold to Owners of Improvements.	Sold by Pre-emption.	Total.
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
1873	274,581	101,587	10,587	1,488	388,243
1874	580,753	98,850	20,546	.....	700,149
1875	978,377	101,718	49,852	.....	1,129,947
1876	1,685,650	95,681	86,099	189,664	2,057,094
1877	1,829,613	158,844	159,848	81,193	2,229,498
1878	861,049	122,812	224,841	4,063	1,212,765
1879	353,372	.....	121,062	6,033	480,467
1880	346,679	39,408	237,646	6,912	630,645
1881	523,657	328,203	474,099	7,461	1,333,420
1882	503,547	353,093	165,031	5,183	1,026,854
Total...	7,937,278	1,400,196	1,549,611	301,997	11,189,082

The consolidation of pastoral estates did not suffer a serious check when the clauses of the Act of 1861, above cited, ceased to operate, as the transfer of conditional purchases supplied fresh means by the gradual absorption of a very large number of selections, principally in the Central and Western Divisions.

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A comparison of the area dealt with in the following table shows how fast the original conditional purchasers of Crown lands are dispossessing themselves of their holdings, whilst the area selected does not exhibit a tendency to increase at anything like the same rate. An examination of the table reveals the fact that since 1882 only, there have been 26,599,813 acres of conditional purchases transferred as against 14,649,037 acres applied for—a difference of 11,950,776 acres, which have gone to increase the large estates, distinctly to the detriment of healthy settlement.

Year.	Selections.		Transfers.	
	Number.	Acreage.	Number.	Acreage.
1882	14,607	2,392,220	8,665	2,134,319
1883	10,725	1,621,948	6,213	1,508,583
1884	10,657	1,453,937	6,017	1,525,456
1885	5,372	1,114,871	9,079	2,286,730
1886	6,061	954,569	7,154	1,881,877
1887	4,478	723,151	7,440	2,159,429
1888	5,364	862,716	10,469	3,096,051
1889	4,686	740,964	10,741	2,327,562
1890	8,526	1,713,577	13,492	1,863,508
1891	6,149	1,306,534	16,727	2,333,808
1892	4,396	816,399	14,017	2,060,130
1893	3,393	533,805	12,581	1,825,097
1894	2,617	414,355	11,235	1,617,263
Total.....	87,031	14,649,037	133,830	26,599,813

It must be remembered, however, that a proportion of these transfers was made by way of mortgage; and therefore it is not possible to ascertain the area absolutely transferred by the original selectors. But if to the area parted with by its owners since 1882 be added the extent of land transferred during the previous twenty years, the fact that 20,310,983 acres out of the total area alienated are now contained in 656 holdings, giving to each one an average domain of 30,962 acres, is easily accounted for. The number of holdings, however, does not represent the number of owners interested, as in not a few cases these large estates are held in partnership by three or four persons, or by companies and financial corporations.

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Rural Settlements.—Holdings.

Excluding land held by the tenants of the Crown, there were, in March, 1895, 59,020 holdings of 1 acre and upwards in extent. Sixteen years previously such holdings numbered 37,887. The increase in number amounted to 56 per cent., while the area comprised in the holdings advanced from 21,471,596 to 41,736,073 acres, or 94 per cent. The average area of alienated holdings gradually rose from 315 acres in 1876 to 770 acres in 1883; between 1884 and 1892 this average increased very little, while in 1893 the figures took a downward movement, falling to 707 acres in 1895. This decline in the average area is due to the increase in the number of small holdings, the advance in this respect during the last three years being as great as that made during the previous seven years. The following table gives the average for each year since 1876:—

Year ended 31 March.	Average size of Holding.	Year ended 31 March.	Average size of Holding.
	acres.		acres.
1876	315	1886	778
1877	459	1887	780
1878	482	1888	778
1879	567	1889	795
1880	569	1890	787
1881	691	1891	780
1882	753	1892	784
1883	770	1893	750
1884	770	1894	748
1885	762	1895	707

The increase shown between the first and last years of the above series is 392 acres, so that the average extent of holdings is now more than twice as large as in 1876. This is attributable mainly to the large area transferred to the larger estates by private purchase, and, during the earlier portion of the period, to the acquisitions by auction sale and improvement purchase, the influence of which has not been so marked since 1884.

Comparing the existing rural holdings of various sizes with those of the year 1880, it will be found that estates under 16 acres in extent have increased 147 per cent., while those from 16 to 200 acres in extent have advanced only 20 per cent. Between 201 and 400 acres in area the number of holdings shows an increase of 34 per cent.; those from 401 to 1,000 acres in area increased 52 per cent.; from 1,001 to 2,000 acres, 104 per cent.; from 2,001 to 10,000 acres, 114 per cent.; while in the largest class of holdings, those from 10,001 acres upwards, the

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increase in number has been 100 per cent. during the fifteen years. The subjoined table shows the number of holdings in different classes at various terms of the period named :—

Area.	Year ended 31st March.			
	1880.	1885.	1890.	1895.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Under 16 acres	4,974	5,409	7,290	12,301
16 to 200 acres	21,302	20,998	22,048	25,707
201 to 400 acres	6,199	6,363	6,774	8,299
401 to 1,000 acres.....	4,964	6,497	6,849	7,569
1,001 to 2,000 acres	1,212	1,886	2,191	2,475
2,001 to 10,000 acres ...	940	1,413	3,910	2,013
10,001 and upwards.....	327	513	658	656
Total	39,918	43,079	49,720	59,020

The holdings under 16 acres in extent are, generally speaking, in the vicinity of towns, and consist mainly of gardens or orchards, and the increase of 147 per cent. is what would naturally be expected from the growing demand for their produce by a large urban population. The least satisfactory feature in the table is the fact that the number of holdings of moderate size does not greatly increase. In 1880 the holdings having an area from 16 to 400 acres numbered 27,501, while in 1895 they numbered 34,006, showing an advance of only 24 per cent. On the other hand, the larger holdings have increased in a remarkable degree—in April, 1895, there were 12,713 holdings of 401 acres and upwards in extent compared with 7,443 in 1880, or an increase of 70 per cent. in number during that short period. The area of holdings, as returned by occupiers, in every fifth year since 1880, is given below :—

Year ended 31st March.	Total Area of Holdings.
	acres.
1880	22,721,603
1885	32,843,317
1890	37,497,889
1895	41,736,073

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The area of unenclosed land in 1876 amounted to one-third of the whole extent of the holdings; but in the beginning of 1895 the proportion had fallen to one-twenty-third, the area unenclosed at that period being only 1,802,891 acres out of a total of 41,736,073 acres occupied. This result is due partly to the operation of legislation, and partly to the saving of labour which fencing enables occupiers to effect.

Metropolitan District.

For the purpose of an examination of the statistics showing the present state of the settlement of alienated land in New South Wales, it will be better to extend the inquiry successively to the various parts of the Colony, as far as possible, in the order in which they were opened up, following the march of colonization, in each of the four zones of settlement into which the country may be said to be geographically divided, viz., the coast, the tableland, the western slope of the Great Dividing Range, and the western plains. Each zone, having its own special character, offers to the settler different natural resources according to its climatic conditions. Proceeding from the metropolis as a centre, settlement extended first along the coast, then to the central and more readily accessible parts of the tableland, following afterwards the course of the great inland rivers towards the southern and western parts of the Colony; thence to the great plains of the west, spreading slowly across the River Darling to the confines of the territory. Nature assisted by legislation contributed to the shaping of settlement into its present form—the natural course of events, however, being at times interrupted by sudden rushes of population to points scattered over the surface of the country, even to its remotest extremities.

That part of the county of Cumberland which embraces the area of the metropolis and its suburbs is outside the limits of this examination, as it is not intended to inquire into the present condition of urban settlement; but it may be stated, nevertheless, that as regards the subdivision and the distribution of landed property in the city and suburbs of Sydney there is now little difference between this and much older communities. The figures given below refer only to rural settlement in the remaining portion of this county, where the first attempts to colonize were made. It will be seen from the following table, in which these holdings are distributed into series of various areas, that there are four distinct classes of holders of alienated land:—(1) Those who occupy their own freeholds; (2) persons occupying holdings which they rent from the freeholders; (3) owners of land who rent from other private owners lands which they work in addition to their own freeholds; and (4) persons who, in addition to their

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freehold, rent from the Crown areas which are generally devoted to the depasturing of stock :—

Police Districts of the County of Cumberland.	Holdings consisting of—					Area of Holdings.		
	Freehold Land.	Private Rented Land.	Partly Freehold and partly Private Rented Land.	Freehold with Crown Lands attached.	Total.	Freehold	Rented	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	acres.	acres.	acres.
Metropolitan	1,382	1,019	67	....	2,468	28,415	13,397	41,812
Ryde	726	143	32	....	901	21,287	2,685	23,972
Parramatta	880	175	52	1	1,108	34,307	17,590	51,897
Liverpool	668	272	45	....	985	33,060	33,227	66,287
Camden (*part of*)	56	40	24	....	120	16,156	18,192	34,348
Campbelltown	207	113	34	1	355	25,833	20,029	45,862
Wollongong (*part of*)	47	20	4	1	72	5,875	7,144	13,019
Windsor (*part of*)	508	165	52	....	725	37,536	14,755	52,291
Penrith (*part of*)	610	244	66	....	920	52,678	63,559	116,237
Total	5,084	2,191	376	3	7,654	255,147	190,578	445,725

Thus, in this part of New South Wales, outside towns and purely suburban areas, 445,725 acres are alienated in holdings over 1 acre in extent, representing 44 per cent. of the total area, which is computed at 1,006,720 acres. Of the alienated land, 255,147 acres, or 57·2 per cent., are in the occupancy of the owners of the land ; whilst 190,578 acres, or 42·8 per cent., are leased to tenant occupiers. There are 5,084 persons occupying their own freeholds, 2,191 tenants, 376 persons who both own and rent portions of their holdings, and 3 holders of freehold with Crown lands attached. The area of alienated land enclosed in this district is 382,025 acres; and unenclosed, 63,700 acres. The area under cultivation is 42,917 acres. Occupiers working their own land cultivate 31,079 acres ; and occupiers of private rented land, 11,838 acres.

From the number of rural landholders in the district it is clearly seen that the average area held by each cannot be very large. In the Police District of Camden it reaches 286 acres ; in Wollongong Police District, 181 acres ; in Campbelltown, 129 ; and in Penrith, 126 acres. In Windsor and in Liverpool the average is 72 and 67 respectively; in Parramatta, 47 ; while for Ryde it is only 26, and for the Metropolitan Police District only 16. The average area for the whole division is only 58 acres per holding.

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The holdings in this division may be classified as follows :—

Size of Holdings.	Alienated Holdings.	Area of Holdings.		Area under Cultivation.	
		Total.	Proportion to Total Area of District.	Total.	Proportion to Area of Holdings.
	No.	acres.	per cent.	acres.	per cent.
1 to 30 acres	5,626	46,893	10·52	16,152	34·44
31 to 400 acres	1,836	182,553	40·96	22,974	12·58
401 to 1,000 acres	126	80,619	18·09	2,295	2·85
1,001 acres and upwards	66	135,660	30·43	1,496	1·20

There are 21 lessees of Crown lands occupying an area of 24,718 acres, 872 acres being held under conditional lease and 23,846 acres under other forms of tenure. The area enclosed is 4,802 acres, and unenclosed 19,916 acres; and there are under cultivation 520 acres, principally at the Hawkesbury Agricultural College and the Pitt Town Labour Settlement. The value of improvements on Crown lands in this district is returned at £20,179.

The occupiers of alienated and Crown lands in the Cumberland district are thus distributed :—Agriculturists, 3,544; graziers, 1,027; dairy farmers, 529; agriculturists and graziers, 663; agriculturists and dairy farmers, 268; graziers and dairy farmers, 66; agriculturists, graziers, and dairy farmers, 101; others—residential, carriers, etc.—1,474; total, 7,672. In this classification no occupier is counted more than once; but it will be seen that, taking each industry, there are 4,576 agriculturists, 1,857 graziers, and 964 dairy farmers. The total area of alienated land and Crown lands occupied is 470,443 acres. Deducting the area cultivated—43,437 acres—it will be seen that the area used for grazing and dairying and other purposes is 427,006 acres.

The total area of the district being 1,006,720 acres, the area remaining unalienated and unoccupied would appear to be 536,277 acres. The figures regarding alienation given above do not, however, include holdings under 1 acre, and as this division includes the metropolitan district, an allowance of rather more than 200,000 acres must be made on this account, so that the actual area of Crown lands unoccupied is not more than 330,000 acres, including much that is of no practical use.

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Hunter and Hawkesbury Valleys.

From the county of Cumberland colonization advanced westward, and the alluvial lands of the Hawkesbury and Nepean valleys were rapidly occupied and covered with prosperous farms. The progress of settlement was then deflected to the northward by the high range of abrupt mountains in the west which was so long a barrier to the advance of the settler in that direction. The lower portion of the valley of the river Hunter, abounding with natural resources, mineral as well as agricultural, soon attracted colonists, and at the present time more population is concentrated in this district than in any other part of New South Wales outside the metropolitan area. The following table indicates the actual state of rural settlement in the district comprising the Hunter and Hawkesbury Valleys:—

Counties.	Holdings consisting of—					Area of Holdings.		
	Freehold Land.	Private Rented Land.	Partly Freehold and partly Private Rented Land.	Freehold with Crown Lands attached.	Total	Freehold.	Rented.	Tota
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	acres.	acres.	acres.
Durham	627	649	130	192	1,598	611,220	152,226	763,446
Hunter	131	53	20	38	242	116,827	15,989	132,816
Northumberland	1,522	1,054	247	48	2,871	352,856	174,667	527,523
Cook	777	198	92	68	1,135	131,502	35,346	166,848
Total	3,057	1,954	489	346	5,846	1,212,405	378,228	1,590,633

This division contains a total area of 5,310,080 acres, of which 1,590,633 acres, or 29·95 per cent., are alienated among 5,846 landholders, so that the average area of holdings in this part of the Colony is 272 acres. Of the area thus alienated, 1,212,405 acres, or 76·2 per cent., are in the occupancy of the owners of the land; and 378,228 acres, or 23·8 per cent., are occupied by private tenants. In the farming counties of Durham and Northumberland the proportion of land held by freeholders is considerable, amounting to 74·68 per cent. of the total area alienated in both counties, and to 60·61 per cent. of the total area alienated in the whole division. It will be seen on reference to the table that the proportion of land held by tenant occupiers is small compared with the total alienated area, only 23·8 per cent. being leasehold, of which 9·6 and 10·9 per cent. are in Durham and Northumberland respectively, while the rented portions of Hunter and Cook together only amount to 3·3 per cent. The total number of occupiers is returned at 5,846 for the whole district; of these, 3,057 occupy their own freeholds, 1,954 are tenants, 489 rent various areas in addition to their

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own land, and 346 occupy, together with their freeholds, a certain area of Crown lands on lease. The average area of holdings in this district is 272 acres, with a minimum of 147 acres in the county of Cook, and a maximum of 549 acres in that of Hunter. Durham comes next with 477 acres per holding; and the area is much lower in Northumberland, which has an average of 184 acres per holding. The area of alienated land enclosed is 1,429,874 acres; and unenclosed, 160,759 acres. There are 59,981 acres under cultivation—33,756 acres of land occupied by the owners, and 26,225 acres of private rented land. The classification of the holdings in this division will be found below. The average area of the large estates in the last series is 19,110 acres :—

Size of Holdings.	Alienated Holdings.	Area of Holdings.		Area under Cultivation.	
		Total.	Proportion to Total Area of District.	Total.	Proportion to Area of Holdings.
	No.	acres.	per cent.	acres.	per cent.
1 to 30 acres	1,974	22,855	1·44	9,806	42·91
31 to 400 acres	3,241	390,888	24·57	40,510	10·36
401 to 1,000 acres	377	237,684	14·94	5,888	2·48
1,001 to 10,000 acres ..	240	671,672	42·23	3,446	0·51
10,000 acres and upwards	14	267,534	16·82	331	.....

The area of Crown lands occupied in this district is 275,401 acres, held by 371 lessees, 346 of whom have also alienated land. Of this area, 112,943 acres are held under conditional lease, and 162,458 acres under other forms of lease. The area enclosed is 170,506 acres; and unenclosed, 104,895 acres. Only 49 acres of Crown lands are cultivated, chiefly in the county of Durham. The value of improvements is returned at £37,496, or an average of about 2s. 9d. per acre occupied.

The occupiers of alienated and Crown lands in the district of the Hunter and Hawkesbury Valleys are distributed as follow :—Agriculturists, 1,607; graziers, 815; dairy farmers, 199; agriculturists and graziers, 704; agriculturists and dairy farmers, 790; graziers and dairy farmers, 263; agriculturists, graziers, and dairy farmers, 966; others—residential, miners, carriers, etc.—527; total, 5,871. Taking the number engaged in each industry, there are, therefore, 4,067 agriculturists, 2,748 graziers, and 2,218 dairy farmers. The area of alienated land in holdings over 1 acre in extent and of Crown lands in occupation is 1,866,034 acres; and deducting from this the area cultivated—60,030 acres—there remains an area of 1,806,004 acres used for grazing and dairying. The total area of the district embraced in this division being 5,310,080 acres, there remain unalienated and unoccupied about 3,400,000 acres of Crown lands, making allowance for small holdings under 1 acre not included in the figures given above.

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South Coast District.

In the earlier portion of the present century colonization took a southerly direction from the metropolis, and settlement extended rapidly along the lower valleys of the rivers of the South Coast, where the best lands were alienated in grants of large areas to a few families. Later on, however, the nature of the country and a more intelligent apprehension of the principles which should guide colonization brought about the subdivision of these large estates into numerous and comparatively small holdings, which are at present cultivated by a fairly prosperous tenantry. This is especially the case in the county of Camden. The average area of estates in Auckland and Dampier, owing to their distance from the metropolis, and perhaps also to the mountainous character of a considerable portion of the land within their boundaries, reaches 388 and 402 acres respectively; but as the metropolis is approached the average area of the holdings decreases to 253 acres in St. Vincent and 181 acres in Camden, the average for the whole district being 243 acres per holding.

In the South Coast district alienated rural lands are occupied in the manner illustrated in the following table :—

Counties.	Holdings consisting of—					Area of Holdings.		
	Freehold Land.	Private Rented Land.	Partly Freehold and partly Private Rented Land.	Freehold with Crown Lands attached.	Total.	Freehold.	Rented.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	acres.	acres.	acres.
Camden	1,562	1,326	449	93	3,430	379,411	239,620	619,031
St. Vincent	710	330	149	148	1,337	243,613	95,175	338,788
Dampier	319	75	42	46	482	162,588	31,280	193,868
Auckland	519	186	103	67	875	278,283	61,237	339,520
Total	3,110	1,917	743	354	6,124	1,063,895	427,312	1,491,207

The area of alienated land is shown to be 1,491,207 acres, or 28·64 per cent. of the total area—5,205,120 acres—of this portion of the Colony; the extent of land occupied by the proprietors themselves being 1,063,895 acres, or 71·3 per cent.; and of that leased to tenant occupiers, 427,312 acres, or 28·7 per cent. of the area alienated. There are altogether in these counties 3,110 occupiers of their own freeholds, 1,917 tenants, 743 persons occupying both their own and leased lands; and 354 occupiers of freehold with Crown lands attached—a total of 6,124 occupiers. The area of alienated land enclosed is 1,323,683 acres, leaving 167,524 acres unenclosed. The area under cultivation is 43,111 acres, of which 26,427 acres represent land occupied by the owners, and 16,684 acres land held under private tenancy.

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The holdings in this division may be classified as under. The average area of large estates over 10,000 acres in extent is 15,133 acres:—

Size of Holdings.	Alienated Holdings.	Area of Holdings.		Area under Cultivation.	
		Total.	Proportion to Total Area of District.	Total.	Proportion to Area of Holdings.
	No.	acres.	per cent.	acres.	per cent.
1 to 30 acres	1,525	12,999	0·88	2,144	16·49
31 to 400 acres	3,777	567,570	38·06	28,757	5·08
401 to 1,000 acres	610	370,898	24·87	7,384	1·99
1,001 to 10,000 acres	205	433,809	29·09	4,219	0·97
10,001 acres and upwards	7	105,931	7·10	607	.....

The area of Crown lands occupied is 345,286 acres, 77,051 acres being held under conditional lease. The area enclosed is 113,662 acres; and unenclosed, 231,624 acres. The cultivated area is 116 acres—nearly all in St. Vincent and Auckland. The total number of lessees is 398, of whom 44 occupy Crown lands only; and the value of improvements on Crown lands is returned at £21,678, or an average of about 1s. 3d. per acre occupied. This average may seem low, but is accounted for by the fact that a large area is unenclosed, especially in county Auckland.

In the South Coast division the total number of occupiers of alienated and Crown lands is 6,168, viz., 1,102 agriculturists only, 1,092 graziers only, and 1,584 dairy farmers only; the number combining agriculture with grazing is 266; those using land for agriculture and dairy farming number 639; those engaged in grazing and dairy farming, 531; while the number combining all three pursuits is 685. The number of persons whose holdings are simply residential, including miners, carriers, etc., is 269. Taking the number engaged in each pursuit, whether solely or in connection with one of the other industries, it will be seen that there are 2,692 agriculturists, 2,574 graziers, and 3,439 dairy farmers.

The area of alienated land and Crown lands occupied is 1,836,493 acres, and, deducting the 43,227 acres cultivated, there are 1,793,266 acres used for grazing and dairying and other purposes. The total area of the counties comprising this district being 5,205,120 acres, the area neither alienated nor under occupation, making allowance for alienated holdings under 1 acre in extent, which are not included above, will be about 3,200,000 acres.

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North Coast District.

In the North Coast district the occupation of the country has extended rapidly, of late years, along the banks of the fine rivers which empty into the Pacific Ocean. Figures regarding alienated holdings in this district will be found below :—

Counties.	Holdings consisting of—					Area of Holdings.		
	Freehold Land.	Private Rented Land.	Partly Freehold and partly Private Rented Land.	Freehold with Crown Lands attached.	Total.	Freehold.	Rented.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	acres.	acres.	acres.
Rous	1,318	614	82	54	2,068	376,934	60,148	437,082
Richmond	289	116	19	65	489	223,129	16,837	239,966
Clarence	718	567	108	89	1,482	156,930	60,639	217,569
Fitzroy	275	36	8	79	398	100,021	11,158	111,179
Raleigh	369	129	29	53	580	59,900	15,193	75,093
Dudley	205	251	56	75	587	87,039	32,555	119,594
Macquarie	829	501	112	89	1,531	237,888	71,722	309,610
Gloucester	679	275	111	168	1,233	333,236	256,472	589,708
Total	4,682	2,489	525	672	8,368	1,575,077	524,724	2,099,801

Of all the districts of New South Wales, the North Coast counties exhibit the best and most satisfactory results as regards settlement. Nowhere has the great object of the Act of 1861—to place an industrious farming population on the soil—been better fulfilled. The total number of land-holders is 8,368, of whom only 2,489 are tenants; 4,682 occupy their own freeholds; 525 work both their own land and additional areas rented from private owners; and 672 occupy areas of Crown lands together with their freeholds. The total area alienated in this rich part of the Colony amounts to 2,099,801 acres, or only 23·56 per cent. of the total extent of the district, which covers 8,913,640 acres; and the average area of holdings is 251 acres, ranging from 129 acres in Raleigh to 478 acres in Gloucester and 490 in Richmond. The proportion of leasehold lands to the area alienated is comparatively small, there being only 524,724 acres so held, or 25 per cent. of the total alienated area; whilst 1,575,077 acres, or 75 per cent., are in the occupancy of the owners of the land themselves. In the counties of Richmond and Fitzroy the area leased by private persons forms only 7 and 10 per cent. respectively of the area alienated; and the maximum is reached in Gloucester, where 43·5 per cent. of the settled rural lands are occupied by tenants.

The area enclosed is 1,507,955 acres, or about 72 per cent. of the total; and the area unenclosed is 591,846 acres. The extent of land

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under cultivation is 142,059 acres, of which 86,407 acres are land occupied by owners, and 55,652 acres are occupied by private tenants.

The holdings in this division may be classified as under. The average area of large estates of over 10,000 acres in extent is 26,640 acres :—

Size of Holdings.	Alienated Holdings.	Area of Holdings.		Area under Cultivation.	
		Total.	Proportion to Total Area of District.	Total.	Proportion to Area of Holdings.
	No.	acres.	per cent.	acres.	per cent.
1 to 30 acres	1,202	15,962	0·76	7,890	49·43
31 to 400 acres	6,335	780,764	37·18	115,718	14·82
401 to 1,000 acres	612	370,736	17·66	12,713	3·43
1,001 to 10,000 acres	200	426,186	20·30	5,395	1·27
10,001 acres and upwards	19	506,153	24·10	343	.....

The area of Crown lands occupied is 1,467,909 acres, held by lessees to the number of 763, of whom 672 occupy Crown lands in conjunction with alienated holdings, and 91 occupy Crown lands only. The area under conditional lease is 318,698 acres; and under all other forms of lease, 1,149,211 acres. The extent of Crown lands enclosed is 515,323 acres; and unenclosed, 952,586 acres. The area cultivated is 1,238 acres; and the value of improvements is returned as £67,924, or not quite 1s. per acre occupied, which is accounted for by the fact that so large an area remains unenclosed.

The occupiers of alienated and Crown lands in the North Coast district are thus classified :—Agriculturists only, 2,729 ; graziers only, 1,427 ; dairy farmers only, 81 ; agriculturists and graziers, 1,789 ; agriculturists and dairy farmers, 928 ; graziers and dairy farmers, 263 ; agriculturists, graziers, and dairy farmers, 951 ; others—residential, miners, carriers, etc.—291 ; total, 8,459. Taking the number engaged in each pursuit, whether solely or in conjunction with the others, the number of agriculturists is 6,397 ; of graziers, 4,430 ; and of dairy farmers, 2,323.

The area of alienated land and Crown lands occupied is 3,567,710 acres, and deducting from this the area cultivated—143,297 acres—there remains an area of 3,424,413 acres used for grazing and dairying and other purposes. The total area of the division being 8,913,640 acres, the area unalienated and unoccupied, making allowance for alienated holdings under 1 acre, which are not included above, will be about 5,200,000 acres, a large portion of which is, however, unfit for settlement.

From the foregoing a fairly clear idea may be obtained of the present state of rural settlement in the valleys of the coastal rivers, and in the country extending from the sea to the first slopes of the Great Dividing Range. Geographical features and climate are the main elements in determining the occupation of the soil, irrespective of administrative boundaries. In this part of the Colony the settlement of the public

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lands has proceeded in a way very different from that of the tableland, which extends from north to south, and divides the rich agricultural valleys of the coastal rivers and their broken mountainous watershed from the immense plains of the western district.

Central Tableland.

After the difficulties between the coast and the interior had been overcome, the pioneers of colonization penetrated to the central tableland, thence extending to the south and the north, and afterwards gradually spreading over the whole of the great western interior. At first they followed the course of the great rivers, and occupied, little by little, all the available land, until at the present time only very inferior country remains untenanted.

The central tableland, comprising the counties grouped around the cities of Bathurst, Orange, and Mudgee, was the first settled, and the occupation of the alienated lands at the present time is illustrated by the figures given in the following table :—

Counties.	Holdings consisting of—					Area of Holdings.		
	Freehold Land.	Private Rented Land.	Partly Freehold and partly Private Rented.	Freehold with Crown Lands attached.	Total.	Freehold.	Rented.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	acres.	acres.	acres.
Brisbane	397	85	44	270	796	817,496	36,963	854,459
Phillip	376	106	25	172	679	278,116	23,289	301,405
Bligh	114	15	4	305	438	454,580	60,992	515,572
Lincoln	212	74	20	194	500	227,777	22,013	249,790
Gordon	180	41	15	205	441	314,155	12,120	326,275
Wellington	516	253	76	281	1,126	330,041	50,468	380,509
Roxburgh	335	156	56	189	736	191,291	86,532	277,823
Ashburnham	919	111	56	265	1,351	547,211	32,468	579,679
Bathurst	801	535	142	182	1,660	622,299	166,985	789,284
Westmoreland	230	81	34	235	580	158,459	40,022	198,481
Total	4,080	1,457	472	2,298	8,307	3,941,425	531,852	4,473,277

From the foregoing table it will be seen that the number of holders of rural lands in this part of the Colony is 8,307, of whom 4,080 occupy their own freeholds, 1,457 are private tenants, and 472 hold land both as free and lease-holders; while 2,298 persons occupy areas of Crown lands, generally for grazing purposes, in addition to their own freeholds. The area alienated is 4,473,277 acres, representing 38·39 per cent. of the whole area of the district, which is computed at 11,649,280 acres. The proportion of land occupied by the landowners themselves is 88·1 per cent., or 3,941,425 acres; whilst 531,852 acres are leased to tenant occupiers. In the county of Roxburgh the proportion of land leased is considerable, 86,532 acres out of 277,823 acres alienated in this county, or 31·1 per cent., being held by tenants; and in Bathurst and

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Westmoreland, 166,985 acres and 40,022 acres respectively, or 21·2 and 20·2 per cent., are held in the same manner. The proportion in the remaining counties gradually diminishes from 13·3 per cent. in Wellington and 11·8 per cent. in Bligh to 4·3 per cent. in Brisbane and 3·7 per cent. in Gordon, where the country is less thickly settled, and is occupied principally for grazing purposes. In the central tableland are situated some of the finest freehold estates in New South Wales, the land having remained in the hands of the original grantees or their descendants, who consolidated their holdings by taking advantage on a large scale of the auction sale and improvement clauses of the Land Act of 1861.

The average area of holdings in this division is 538 acres, ranging from a maximum of 1,177 acres in Bligh and 1,073 acres in Brisbane, owing to the cause just mentioned, to a minimum of 338 acres in Wellington. The total area of alienated land enclosed is 4,384,968 acres, or a little over 98 per cent.; the area unenclosed being only 88,309 acres. The area cultivated is 226,190 acres, 168,099 acres being land worked by the owners, and 58,091 acres by tenants.

The holdings in this division may be classified as under. The average area of large estates over 10,000 acres in extent is 23,481 acres:—

Size of Holdings.	Alienated Holdings.	Area of Holdings.		Area under Cultivation.	
		Total.	Proportion to Total Area of District.	Total.	Proportion to Area of Holdings.
	No.	acres.	per cent.	acres.	per cent.
1 to 30 acres	1,629	12,014	0·27	4,182	34·81
31 to 400 acres	4,891	824,846	18·44	122,660	14·87
401 to 1,000 acres..	1,169	730,040	16·32	58,614	8·03
1001 to 10,000 acres.....	556	1,450,559	32·43	33,400	2·30
10,001 acres and upwards	62	1,455,818	32·54	7,334	.....

The area of Crown lands occupied on the central tableland is 3,957,893 acres, of which 1,212,282 acres are held under conditional lease. There are 3,437,907 acres enclosed, and 519,986 acres unenclosed. The number of lessees is 2,466, of whom 2,298 occupy Crown lands in addition to alienated holdings, and 168 occupy Crown lands only. The area cultivated is 1,885 acres, and the value of improvements is returned at £431,156—an average of about 2s. 2d. per acre occupied.

The total number of occupiers of alienated land and Crown lands in this district is 8,475, classified as follows:—Agriculturists, 1,602; graziers, 2,135; dairy-farmers, 249; agriculturists and graziers, 1,620; agriculturists and dairy-farmers, 678; graziers and dairy-farmers, 321; agriculturists, graziers, and dairy-farmers, 1,377; and others—residential, miners, carriers, etc.—493. Taking the number engaged in each industry, there are 5,277 agriculturists, 5,453 graziers, and 2,625 dairy-

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farmers. The area of alienated land and Crown lands occupied is 8,431,170 acres; and deducting from this the area under cultivation—228,075 acres—there remain 8,203,095 acres used for grazing and dairying and other purposes. The total area of the counties comprised in the district being 11,649,280 acres, the area neither alienated nor occupied, allowing for alienated holdings under 1 acre in extent, which are not included in the foregoing figures, will be about 3,100,000 acres.

Southern Tableland.

The conditions of settlement in the southern tableland do not greatly differ from those which obtain in the central district, the principal feature being the greater proportion of holdings occupied by their proprietors. The following table illustrates the state of settlement in the various counties which comprise this portion of the Colony:—

Counties.	Holdings consisting of—					Area of Holdings.		
	Freehold Land.	Private Rented Land.	Partly Freehold and partly Private Rented Land.	Freehold with Crown Lands attached.	Total.	Freehold.	Rented.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	acres.	acres.	acres.
Forbes	265	31	19	147	462	406,319	19,944	426,263
Monteagle	554	51	46	162	813	553,911	21,440	575,351
Harden	516	102	61	116	795	760,471	51,338	811,809
King	445	107	64	396	1,012	568,103	55,183	623,286
Georgiana	238	67	34	319	658	298,067	70,552	368,619
Argyle	582	236	110	225	1,153	470,936	152,690	623,626
Murray	463	136	91	236	926	768,771	83,235	852,006
Cowley	34	2	2	76	114	108,154	6,022	114,176
Buccleuch	107	81	12	94	294	201,551	6,342	207,893
Clarendon	377	99	44	40	560	531,928	54,064	585,992
Wynyard	537	163	46	126	872	567,796	45,935	613,731
Goulburn	319	75	27	89	510	522,920	60,698	583,618
Selwyn	145	19	7	74	245	211,063	4,509	215,572
Wallace	137	21	10	226	394	412,912	18,063	430,975
Beresford	209	47	17	122	395	365,617	9,647	375,264
Wellesley	283	43	23	123	472	511,617	16,590	528,207
Total	5,211	1,280	613	2,571	9,675	7,260,136	676,252	7,936,388

Thus the land alienated in this part of the Colony comprises 7,936,388 acres, or 47·36 per cent. of the whole of its area, which contains 16,755,200 acres. Of this extent of land, only 676,252 acres, or 8·5 per cent. of the settled lands, are held in tenancy; whilst 7,260,136 acres, or 91·5 per cent., are occupied by the landowners themselves. The percentage of land held in tenancy is greatest in the counties of Argyle and Georgiana, where it is 24·5 and 19·1 respectively. There are 10·4 per cent. in Goulburn county, 9·8 in Murray, 9·2 in Clarendon, 8·9 in King, 7·5 in Wynyard, and 6·3 in Harden. In the other counties the proportion dwindles from 5·3 per cent. in Cowley to a minimum of 2·1 per cent. in the southern county of Selwyn.

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In the whole of this district the total number of occupiers is 9,675, of whom 5,211 occupy their own freeholds, 1,280 are tenants, 613 occupy both descriptions of alienated lands, while 2,571 occupy areas of Crown lands in addition to their freeholds. The conditions of settlement in which pastoral occupation is the leading feature must necessarily greatly affect the average extent of rural holdings, and in this division it will be found to attain fairly high proportions, 820 acres being the average throughout, with a maximum of 1,119 acres in Wellesley, and a minimum of 541 acres in Argyle. The area of alienated land enclosed is 7,776,967 acres; and unenclosed, 159,421 acres. The total extent under cultivation is 266,829 acres, viz., 214,077 acres worked by owners and 52,752 acres by tenants. This is small in proportion to the area of the district, but it is on the large estates of the southern tableland that there has been the most notable increase in cultivation. The area cultivated on estates over 10,000 acres in extent, viz., 25,807 acres, is 120 per cent. higher than that of two years ago, when it stood at 11,542 acres. The advance has taken place in every county in the district, but the county of Monteagle shows an increase in the area cultivated on these large holdings from 1,011 acres in the year 1892-3 to 3,866 acres in 1893-4, and 11,059 acres in 1894-5. On one holding alone the area rose from 2,426 acres in 1893-4 to 7,852 acres in 1894-5, and the same holder had cleared and prepared about 3,000 acres more for the present season, so that it is probable he has now 10,000 acres, or about one-third of his estate, under cultivation. The average area of large estates over 10,000 acres in extent is 20,676. The holdings in this division may be classified as under:—

Size of Holdings.	Alienated Holdings.	Area of Holdings.		Area under Cultivation.	
		Total.	Proportion to Total Area of District.	Total.	Proportion to Area of Holdings.
	No.	acres.	per cent.	acres.	per cent.
1 to 30 acres	1,721	14,406	0·18	4,049	28·11
31 to 400 acres	5,058	846,969	10·67	87,784	10·36
401 to 1,000 acres	1,567	1,016,795	12·81	68,055	6·69
1,001 to 10,000 acres ...	1,192	3,225,672	40·65	81,134	2·52
10,001 acres and upwards	137	2,832,546	35·69	25,807	0·91

The area of Crown lands occupied in the counties of the southern tableland is 4,121,574 acres, of which there are under conditional lease 1,605,621 acres. The area enclosed is 3,238,088 acres, and unenclosed 883,486 acres. The total number of lessees is 2,703, of whom 2,571 hold alienated lands also, and 132 occupy Crown lands only. The area cultivated on Crown lands is very small—only 537 acres. The value of improvements is returned at £396,470, or an average of about 1s. 11d. per acre occupied.

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The total number of persons occupying alienated and Crown lands is 9,807, classified as follows:—Agriculturists, 1,795; graziers, 3,083; dairy-farmers, 346; agriculturists and graziers, 1,491; agriculturists and dairy-farmers, 541; graziers and dairy-farmers, 659; agriculturists, graziers, and dairy-farmers, 1,491; and others—residential, miners, carriers, etc.—401. In this classification no holder is counted more than once; but it will be seen that, taking each industry, there are 5,318 agriculturists, 6,724 graziers, and 3,037 dairy-farmers. The area of alienated land and Crown lands occupied is 12,057,962 acres, and deducting the area cultivated, 267,366 acres, there remain 11,790,596 acres devoted to grazing and dairying. The total area of the district is 16,755,200 acres, and making allowance for alienated holdings under 1 acre in extent, which are not included in the foregoing, there are left neither alienated nor occupied about 4,500,000 acres, which, of course, include land that is of no practical use.

Northern Tableland.

In the northern tableland the disproportion between freeholders and tenants is strongly marked, the latter forming a very small minority of the occupiers of alienated lands, owing to the same causes which operate both in the south and in the centre of this great section of the Colony. It is evident that the object of the Land Act of 1861 to create a class of independent settlers has been fairly successful, notwithstanding the fact that the number of actual occupiers is small compared with that of the individual selectors who, since the year 1861, have applied for conditional purchases. The following figures illustrate the state of settlement in the part of the country in question:—

Counties.	Holdings consisting of—					Area of Holdings.		
	Freehold Land.	Private Rented Land.	Partly Freehold and partly Private Rented Land.	Freehold, with Crown Lands attached.	Total.	Freehold.	Rented.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	acres.	acres.	acres.
Parry	176	62	26	98	362	404,305	7,514	411,819
Buckland	212	39	17	76	344	698,625	19,433	718,058
Vernon	126	17	6	128	277	295,971	35,183	331,154
Inglis	142	19	6	147	314	222,018	19,392	241,410
Darling	88	32	9	227	356	294,167	16,639	310,806
Sandon	468	85	32	135	720	455,502	35,405	490,907
Clarke	45	1	1	121	168	133,482	288	133,770
Hardinge	87	22	4	200	313	231,783	18,954	250,737
Clive	313	51	18	92	474	123,509	3,626	127,135
Hawes	11	..	....	65	76	122,929	800	123,729
Gresham	10	..	2	9	21	20,696	240	20,936
Gough	382	103	39	179	703	470,068	43,672	513,740
Arawatta	112	20	15	113	260	267,452	29,146	296,598
Drake	18	5	1	29	53	116,890	1,279	118,169
Buller	79	8	....	51	138	56,959	2,515	59,474
Total	2,269	464	176	1,670	4,579	3,914,356	234,086	4,148,442

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The total area alienated in this district is 4,148,442 acres, or 28·33 per cent. of the whole extent of 14,643,200 acres. The total number of occupiers of rural settled lands is 4,579, of whom 2,269 live on their freeholds, only 464 are tenants, 176 hold both freehold and leasehold land, and 1,670 occupy Crown lands in addition to their freeholds. The proportion of the area occupied by private tenants is 234,086 acres, or 5·6 per cent. of the whole extent of alienated land; whilst 94·4 per cent., representing 3,914,356 acres, is occupied by the landowners themselves. The land is used for both agricultural and pastoral purposes, and these industries are generally carried on conjointly. The average area of holdings in the district is 906 acres, varying between 268 acres per holding in Clive and 2,229 acres in Drake. The average in the county of Buckland is 2,087 acres; but in the districts surrounding the towns of Glen Innes and Inverell a large decrease is experienced, the average area of the holdings being only 731 and 801 acres in Gough and Hardinge respectively. The area of alienated land enclosed is 3,924,572 acres; and unenclosed, 223,870 acres. There are 86,657 acres cultivated—that is, about 2 per cent. of the alienated area—76,777 acres being land tilled by the proprietors, and 9,880 by tenants. The average area of large estates over 10,000 acres in extent is 28,396 acres. The holdings in this division may be classified as under:—

Size of Holdings.	Alienated Holdings.	Area of Holdings.		Area under Cultivation.	
		Total.	Proportion to Total Area of District.	Total.	Proportion to Area of Holdings.
	No.	acres.	per cent.	acres.	per cent.
1 to 30 acres	734	5,683	0·14	2,239	39·39
31 to 400 acres	2,657	463,930	11·18	45,407	9·79
401 to 1,000 acres	688	449,052	10·82	21,262	4·73
1,001 to 10,000 acres ...	426	1,148,436	27·68	14,645	1·28
10,001 acres and upwards	74	2,081,341	50·18	3,104	.....

There are 6,022,168 acres of Crown lands occupied in this division, 1,534,662 acres of which are held under conditional lease. The area of Crown lands enclosed is 3,329,393 acres; and unenclosed, 2,692,775 acres. The value of improvements is returned at £374,620—an average

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of 1s. 3d. per acre occupied, the unenclosed area being very large. Only a very small area, 220 acres, is under cultivation. The occupiers of alienated and Crown lands on the northern tableland are classified as follow:—Agriculturists, 638; graziers, 1,398; dairy-farmers, 118; agriculturists and graziers, 929; agriculturists and dairy-farmers, 314; graziers and dairy-farmers, 290; agriculturists, graziers, and dairy-farmers, 818; and others—residential, miners, carriers, etc.—233; total, 4,738. On the basis of the actual number engaged in each pursuit, whether solely or in conjunction with another, there are engaged in agriculture 2,699 occupiers, in grazing 3,435, and in dairying 1,540. The total area of alienated lands and Crown lands held under lease is 10,170,610 acres, and deducting from this the area cultivated—86,877 acres—it will be seen that the area devoted to grazing and dairying is 10,083,733 acres. The total area of the district being 14,643,200 acres, making allowance for alienated land in holdings under an acre in extent, which are not included in the foregoing, there remains neither alienated nor under occupation an area of about 4,350,000 acres.

South-Western Slope.

The districts situated on the western slope of the Great Dividing Range mark the transition between the agricultural settlements of the coast and tableland and the purely pastoral settlements of the great western region. The extent of arable land in the division is very considerable, but in proportion to the total area of holdings little is devoted to cultivation, as it is more advantageous at present to use the land for grazing purposes, the great distance to the markets being the principal obstacle to a rapid expansion of agriculture on the tableland. Notwithstanding this, however, a considerable impetus has been given to agriculture during the last two years, some of the most notable increases having taken place in this district.

It will be noticed that the proportion of land alienated considerably diminishes as the districts on the western slope are reached, except in those parts where the excellence of the land for grazing purposes, and even for agriculture, impelled the pastoral tenants of the Crown some years ago to secure their holdings from the incursions of the free selector—whom the Act ostensibly intended to favour—by means of systematic purchases under the auction sale and improvement clauses of the Land Act of 1861. In the south-western districts, which are traversed by the principal permanent rivers of western New South Wales, the land has been alienated in a wholesale fashion, and immense areas of freehold land are in the hands of a very small number of landholders; while in the north-western districts the freehold estates are neither so numerous nor of such an enormous extent as those in the south. The state of settlement in the counties situated in the

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southern part of the western slope of the Great Dividing Range may be gathered from the following figures:—

Counties	Holdings consisting of—					Area of Holdings.		
	Freehold Land.	Private Rented Land.	Partly Freehold and partly Private Rented Land.	Freehold with Crown Lands attached.	Total.	Freehold.	Rented.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	acres.	acres.	acres.
Dowling	42	3	..	48	93	136,602	2,195	138,797
Gipps	52	5	2	187	246	470,762	7,714	478,476
Bland	322	31	9	262	624	639,581	33,613	673,194
Bourke	308	73	16	114	511	547,041	43,009	590,050
Cooper	57	16	5	103	181	584,908	13,897	598,805
Nicholson	29	5	1	44	79	305,563	14,416	319,979
Sturt	17	2	..	23	42	569,068	1,998	571,061
Waradgery	50	13	1	104	168	803,025	41,610	844,635
Boyd	44	7	1	7	59	460,814	3,820	464,634
Mitchell	150	48	22	43	263	596,687	32,207	628,894
Urana	200	24	20	33	277	1,488,108	32,757	1,520,865
Townsend	109	21	12	36	178	1,507,447	28,360	1,535,807
Wakool	83	2	3	55	143	1,088,274	8,944	1,097,218
Cadell	163	24	17	7	211	476,330	12,835	489,165
Denison	187	89	22	17	315	537,720	61,318	599,038
Hume	316	77	29	21	443	777,440	38,767	816,207
Total	2,129	440	160	1,104	3,833	10,989,370	377,455	11,366,825

The total area of this district, commonly called Riverina, is computed at 22,273,360 acres, of which 11,366,825 acres are now alienated, or 51·03 per cent. of the whole area. In some of the counties, however, a greater proportion of the land has been parted with; thus in Hume 76·64 per cent. is alienated, or 816,207 acres out of a total of 1,064,960 acres. This county is closely followed by Mitchell, with 76·17 per cent., or 628,894 acres out of 825,600 acres; Urana, with 76·08 per cent., or 1,520,865 acres out of 1,999,080 acres; Denison, with 75·97 per cent., or 599,038 acres out of 788,480 acres; Cadell, with 73·28 per cent., or 489,165 acres out of 667,520 acres; Townsend, with 65·7 per cent., or 1,535,807 acres out of 2,335,080 acres; Sturt, with 59 per cent., or 571,061 acres out of 967,680 acres; and Wakool, with 57·72 per cent., or 1,097,218 acres out of 1,900,800 acres. The counties of Waradgery, Boyd, Bland, and Bourke have respectively 47·32 per cent., 46·39 per cent., 43·48 per cent., and 40·08 per cent. of their total areas alienated; Cooper and Gipps, 34 per cent. and 30·54 per cent. respectively; but in the county of Nicholson the percentage is only 22·66, and in Dowling only 11·78. The percentage of land held by tenants is very small, ranging from less than 1 per cent. in Wakool to 10·2 in Denison, the percentage for the whole district being only 3·3.

The number of holders of rural lands in the Riverina district is 3,833, of whom 2,129 occupy their own freeholds, only 440 are private tenants, 160 hold land both as free and lease holders, while 1,104 persons

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occupy areas of Crown lands, generally for grazing purposes, in addition to their own freeholds.

As might be expected, the average area of holdings is high in these districts, where the auction and improvement clauses of the Crown Lands Act of 1861 were extensively brought into operation for the purpose of consolidating holdings and preventing the land from falling into the hands of the free selectors, whom the great pastoral lessees did not look upon as desirable neighbours. The land was, indeed, bought up wholesale, the pastoralists being greatly helped by the various banking corporations, and their joint operations resulted in the alienation of immense areas of the best pastoral land in the Colony. The average area of holdings for the whole district is 2,965 acres; but in the county of Sturt it reaches 13,596 acres; in Townsend, 8,628 acres; in Boyd, 7,875 acres; in Wakool, 7,673 acres; and in Waradgery, 5,027 acres, diminishing from 4,050 in Nicholson to 1,079 acres in Bland.

Practically the whole of the alienated land in this district is enclosed, only 28,050 acres out of a total area of 11,366,825 acres being open. The area under cultivation is 387,174 acres, of which 321,344 acres represent land worked by proprietors, while 65,830 acres are worked by tenants. The holdings in this division are thus distributed :—

Size of Holdings.	Alienated Holdings.	Area of Holdings.		Area under Cultivation.	
		Total.	Proportion to Total Area of District.	Total.	Proportion to Area of Holdings.
	No.	acres.	per cent.	acres.	per cent.
1 to 30 acres	284	2,154	0·02	533	24·74
31 to 400 acres	1,468	307,341	2·70	79,097	25·74
401 to 1,000 acres.....	1,084	700,771	6·17	102,417	14·61
1,001 to 10,000 acres ...	804	2,014,244	17·72	143,783	7·14
10,001 acres and upwards	193	8,342,315	73·39	61,344	.....

The average area of estates over 10,000 acres in extent is 43,224 acres. The area cultivated on these large holdings is small in comparison with their total extent, but it is nevertheless nearly three times as much as it was two years ago, the same tendency being observable in this district as has been referred to in the southern tableland.

The total area of Crown lands occupied on the South-Western slope is 8,016,922 acres, only 80,526 acres of which remain unfenced. The area held under conditional lease is 2,090,983 acres. Under cultivation there are 5,990 acres, of which over 4,700 acres are in the counties of Bourke, Cooper, and Nicholson. The value of improvements is returned at £1,079,262, or an average of about 2s. 8d. per acre. The number of lessees is 1,172, of whom 1,104 occupy Crown lands attached to alienated holdings, and 68 occupy Crown lands only.

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The purposes for which land is used are shown in the following classifition of occupiers:—Agriculturists only, 617; graziers only, 918; and dairy farmers only, 18; agriculturists and graziers, 1,016; agriculturists and dairy farmers, 121; graziers and dairy farmers, 161; agriculturists, graziers, and dairy farmers, 842; others—residential, miners, carriers, etc.—208; total, 3,901. From this it will be seen that there are engaged in agriculture, 2,596 occupiers; in grazing, 2,937; and in dairying, 1,142. The area of alienated lands and Crown lands occupied is 19,383,747 acres, and deducting from this the cultivated area—393,164 acres—the area devoted to grazing and dairying is 18,990,583 acres. The total area of the district is 22,273,360 acres, so that, allowing for alienation in holdings under 1 acre in area, there are not more than about 2,800,000 acres unalienated and unoccupied.

Western-Central Slope.

The condition of settlement in regard to the lands on the central westward slope is illustrated by the following table:—

Counties.	Holdings consisting of—					Area of Holdings.		
	Freehold Land.	Private Rented Land.	Partly Freehold and partly Private Rented.	Freehold with Crown Lands attached.	Total.	Freehold.	Rented.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	acres.	acres.	acres.
Gregory	11	2	..	93	106	436,288	102,167	538,455
Ewenmar	42	8	2	156	208	288,377	14,263	302,640
Canbelego	11	1	3	29	44	47,596	4,062	51,658
Oxley	45	6	2	76	129	226,214	5,639	231,853
Narromine	86	15	1	114	216	158,238	28,608	186,846
Flinders	4	..	..	54	58	64,751	.....	64,751
Kennedy	8	2	..	122	132	148,982	5,810	154,792
Cunningham	41	9	5	195	250	307,478	9,408	316,886
Total	248	43	13	839	1,143	1,677,924	169,957	1,847,881

The total area alienated amounts to 1,847,881 acres, or 16·46 per cent. of the total area of the district, which is estimated at 11,228,520 acres. The greatest area alienated is in the county of Gregory, where there are 538,455 acres, or 27·41 per cent. of the total area, held by settlers. The percentage of alienated land in Oxley is 27·3; in Ewenmar, 23·02; and in Cunningham, 20·67; in Narromine 16·16 per cent. and in Kennedy 10·55 per cent. has been parted with; but in Flinders the proportion is only 4·19 per cent., and in Canbelego 3·69 per cent. The land is almost entirely devoted to pastoral pursuits, there being only 27,409 acres under cultivation, of which 22,401 acres, or 81 per cent., are in the counties of Narromine, Kennedy, and Cunningham. Only 853 acres are cultivated by tenants. Although the area occupied by tenants is proportionately larger than is the case farther south, there are only

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169,957 acres so held, the proprietors occupying 1,677,924 acres out of the 1,847,881 acres of alienated land which the district contains. The percentage held by tenants ranges from 19 per cent. in Gregory and 15·5 per cent. in Narromine to 3 per cent. in Cunningham, giving an average of 9·2 per cent. for the whole district. The area of alienated land enclosed is 1,821,978 acres, and only 25,903 acres are unenclosed.

As a result of the small number of settlers in such an extensive district, the average area of holdings is necessarily fairly large, although it does not attain to such proportions as in the south, the average of this division being 1,616 acres, with a maximum of 5,079 acres in Gregory and a minimum of 865 acres in Narromine.

The holdings in this division may be thus classified. The average area of large estates over 10,000 acres in extent is 29,006 acres:—

Size of Holdings.	Alienated Holdings.	Area of Holdings.		Area under Cultivation.	
		Total.	Proportion to Total Area of District.	Total.	Proportion to Area of Holdings.
	No.	acres.	per cent.	acres.	per cent.
1 to 30 acres	92	825	0·05	147	17·82
31 to 400 acres	361	69,922	3·78	5,519	7·89
401 to 1,000 acres	433	276,954	14·99	10,260	3·70
1,001 to 10,000 acres ...	229	688,020	37·23	10,954	1·59
10,001 acres and upwards	28	812,160	43·95	529	.....

The area of Crown lands occupied in this district is 8,630,717 acres, of which 8,504,096 acres are enclosed. The area under conditional lease is 2,582,714 acres; and there are 101,083 acres under homestead lease in the county of Canbelego. The area under cultivation is only 1,430 acres; and the value of improvements on Crown lands is £1,003,740, or an average of about 2s. 4d. per acre occupied. There are 868 lessees, of whom 839 also have alienated estates, and 29 occupy Crown lands only.

The occupiers of alienated and Crown lands in the western-central district are thus classified:—Agriculturists only, 159; graziers only, 576; dairy farmers only, 4; agriculturists and graziers, 209; agriculturists and dairy farmers, 9; graziers and dairy farmers, 48; agriculturists, graziers, and dairy farmers, 101; and others—residential, miners, carriers, etc.—66; total, 1,172. On the basis of the number engaged in each industry, whether solely or otherwise, it will be seen that there are 478 agriculturists, 934 graziers, and 162 dairy farmers. The total area of alienated lands and Crown lands occupied is 10,478,598 acres, of which 10,449,759 acres are devoted to the pastoral and dairying industry. The total area embraced in the counties comprising the western-central district is 11,228,520 acres, and making allowance for alienated estates under 1 acre in extent, which are not included in the foregoing, there remains neither alienated nor under lease an area of not more than 725,000 acres.

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North-Western Slope.

In the northern portion of the western slope of the Dividing Range, the distribution of settlement closely resembles that met with in the division just examined, as the following table shows :—

Counties.	Holdings consisting of—					Area of Holdings.		
	Freehold Land.	Private Rented Land.	Partly Freehold and partly Private Rented.	Freehold with Crown Lands attached.	Total.	Freehold.	Rented.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	acres.	acres.	acres.
Stapylton	13	1	4	77	95	187,203	19,210	206,413
Burnett	51	10	6	112	179	391,211	6,138	397,349
Courallie	47	3	6	55	111	534,908	9,267	544,175
Benarba	12	2	..	139	153	277,139	33,721	310,860
Murchison	119	24	13	102	258	201,752	6,780	208,532
Nandewar	104	32	8	64	208	261,471	10,268	271,739
Jamison	24	8	..	124	156	398,182	11,445	409,627
Denham	9	4	..	100	113	198,993	16,450	215,443
Leichhardt	28	15	3	242	288	606,025	53,472	659,497
Baradine	43	10	3	76	132	118,456	4,954	123,410
White	56	5	4	24	89	54,019	3,088	57,107
Pottinger	131	12	9	131	283	811,978	31,617	843,595
Napier	20	5	1	43	69	155,372	9,174	164,546
Gowen	76	28	6	136	246	156,607	9,147	165,754
Total	733	159	63	1,425	2,380	4,353,316	224,731	4,578,047

The area alienated is 4,578,047 acres, or 23·89 per cent. of the total area, which is 19,157,800 acres. The highest proportion of alienated land is in Pottinger, around Gunnedah, where 843,595 acres, or 46·75 per cent. of the total area of the county, calculated at 1,804,120 acres, have been alienated, the greater portion to the pastoralists, who have succeeded in preventing the settlement of an agricultural class on the best portion of the famed Liverpool Plains. The competition between the pastoralists and the selectors was not so keen in the north-western district as it was in the central, and more particularly in the south-western division, presumably because the land, though equally good in quality, is too distant from the markets, and the country is more exposed to extreme climatic influences in the northern parts. The average area of holdings throughout the district, though higher than in the central-western district, is not so large as the average in the south-west, reaching 1,923 acres, with a maximum of 4,902 acres in Courallie, owing to causes explained above, and a minimum of 674 acres in Gowen. The district, with the exception of its eastern portion, abutting on the boundary of the tableland of New England, is entirely devoted to the depasturing of stock. There are 222 tenant occupiers, renting 224,731 acres, the balance of the alienated area—4,353,316 acres—being occupied by 2,158 proprietors. The total number of holdings is 2,380, of which 733 are freeholds, 159 rented properties, 63 partly freehold and partly leasehold, and 1,425 freeholds to which have been added Crown lands.

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The percentage of land held by tenant occupiers is not large, amounting only to 4·9 per cent. for the district. In Benarba, however, it reaches 10·8 per cent.; in Stapylton, 9·3 per cent.; and in Leichhardt, 8·1 per cent.; but the proportion is very small everywhere else. The greater part of the alienated land in the district is enclosed, only 147,123 acres out of a total of 4,578,047 acres remaining open. The area cultivated is 17,876 acres, 16,241 acres being tilled by proprietors and 1,635 acres by tenants.

The holdings in this division may be classified as follow. The average area of large estates over 10,000 acres in extent is 32,248 acres :—

Size of Holdings.	Alienated Holdings.	Area of Holdings.		Area under Cultivation.	
		Total.	Proportion to Total Area of District.	Total.	Proportion to Area of Holdings.
	No.	acres.	per cent.	acres.	per cent.
1 to 30 acres	203	1,732	0·04	407	25·50
31 to 400 acres	940	154,120	3·37	9,335	6·06
401 to 1,000 acres.....	734	469,401	10·25	3,674	0·78
1,001 to 10,000 acres ...	416	1,147,221	25·06	3,305	0·29
10,001 acres and upwards	87	2,805,573	61·28	1,155	.....

In the north-western district there are under lease 11,524,268 acres of Crown lands, 10,427,574 acres being enclosed and 1,096,694 acres open. The total area under conditional lease is 2,913,737 acres. There is no cultivation to speak of, the entire area under crop being only 132 acres. The value of improvements on Crown lands is returned at £800,694, or about 1s. 5d. per acre. There are 1,478 lessees, 1,425 occupying Crown lands in addition to their alienated holdings, and 53 occupying Crown lands only.

The occupiers of alienated and Crown lands are thus classified :—Agriculturists only, 162 ; graziers only, 1,215 ; dairy-farmers only, 16 ; agriculturists and graziers, 447 ; agriculturists and dairy-farmers, 31 ; graziers and dairy-farmers, 183 ; agriculturists, graziers, and dairy-farmers, 236 ; and others—residential, miners, carriers, etc.—143 ; total, 2,433. Taking the number engaged in each pursuit, whether solely or otherwise, it will be seen that 876 are engaged in agriculture, 2,081 in grazing, and 466 in dairy-farming. The area of alienated lands and Crown lands occupied is 16,102,315 acres, and deducting the area cultivated, 18,008 acres, there remain 16,084,307 acres devoted to the pastoral and dairying industries—chiefly, of course, the former.

The total area of the counties comprising this division being 19,157,800 acres, the area remaining unalienated and unoccupied by lease, allowing for alienation in holdings under 1 acre in extent, which are not included in the figures given above, will not be more than about 3,000,000 acres.

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The Western Plains.

In the extreme west of the Colony settlement is making but slow progress. With the exception of the great mining centre of Broken Hill, situated on the boundary of the neighbouring Colony of South Australia, around which a large population has settled within the last few years, the whole of this vast portion of the domain of New South Wales is given up to the depasturing of stock. Sheep-breeding is practically the only industry, the general character of the country militating against the successful rearing of cattle. The present state of settlement on the western plains is illustrated by the figures given below :—

Counties.	Holdings consisting of—					Area of Holdings.		
	Freehold Land.	Private Rented Land.	Partly Freehold and partly Private Rented Land.	Freehold with Crown Lands attached.	Total.	Freehold.	Rented.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	acres.	acres.	acres.
Finch	12	1	....	28	41	132,493	5,373	137,866
Narran	5	11	....	23	39	63,559	5,516	69,075
Culgoa	9	1	....	6	16	10,112	340	10,452
Gunderbooka	8	4	....	15	27	22,716	7,878	30,594
Irrara	3	....	....	5	8	8,422	.....	8,422
Barrona	....	....	....	1	1	40	.....	40
Cowper	15	3	6	23	47	39,151	3,606	42,757
Clyde	7	6	....	38	51	73,786	7,524	81,310
Robinson	26	8	1	12	47	11,734	1,387	13,121
Yanda	4	2	....	9	15	9,820	4,400	14,220
Landsborough	1	....	....	4	5	24,896	.....	24,896
Booroondarra	3	1	....	4	8	1,686	40	1,726
Rankin	2	1	....	6	9	8,528	176	8,704
Killara	1	....	....	3	4	2,449	.....	2,449
Woore	1	....	....	6	7	6,960	.....	6,960
Werunda	1	1	....	3	5	1,650	80	1,730
Mouramba	24	2	....	10	36	7,512	117	7,629
Blaxland	24	1	1	17	43	62,492	44	62,446
Mossgiel	6	1	....	8	15	22,338	470	22,808
Franklin	4	2	....	22	28	196,090	7,206	203,296
Waljeers	1	3	....	12	16	135,488	7,457	142,945
Caira	42	6	5	19	72	454,643	8,363	463,006
Taila	8	2	3	9	22	18,291	619	18,910
Kilfera	4	....	....	3	7	12,744	.....	12,744
Manara	1	....	....	6	7	56,397	.....	56,397
Young	20	5	....	12	37	20,341	4,862	25,203
Yungnulgra	4	3	....	2	9	8,350	120	8,470
Fitzgerald	1	1	....	1	3	640	80	720
Ularara	1	1	....	6	8	5,523	316	5,839
Yantara	1	1	....	4	6	3,838	20	3,858
Delalah	....	....	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....
Thoulcanna	2	....	....	3	5	2,760	....	2,760
Wentworth	37	2	1	16	56	79,285	373	79,658
Tara	2	1	....	16	19	40,579	7,890	48,469
Windeyer	3	1	....	8	12	27,828	9	27,837
Perry	2	1	....	8	11	42,365	40	42,405
Menindie	1	....	....	3	4	10,880	.....	10,880
Livingstone	7	....	....	12	19	14,448	960	15,408
Yancowinna	233	50	2	17	302	19,128	951	20,079
Tandora	2	....	....	6	8	3,581	.....	3,581
Farnell	1	1	....	4	6	5,083	200	5,283
Mootwingee	4	1	....	8	13	6,539	80	6,619
Evelyn	4	3	....	5	12	4,553	182	4,735
Poole	....	....	....	1	1	120	.....	120
Tongowoko	4	....	....	....	4	1,420	.....	1,420
Total	541	127	19	424	1,111	1,681,168	76,679	1,757,847

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The proportion of land alienated is only 2·13 per cent. of the total area of this district, being an aggregate of 1,757,847 acres out of 82,705,080 acres which the division is estimated to contain. Of this area, 1,681,168 acres are in the occupancy of the landowners, and only 76,679 acres are held under private lease, this kind of tenure being principally met with in the counties of Robinson, Gunderbooka, Yanda, Young, Fitzgerald, and Tara; and situated chiefly in the neighbourhood of the towns on the Darling, and near Cobar. The total number of holdings is 1,111, of which 541 are freehold, 127 rented properties, 19 partly freehold and partly leasehold, and 424 freeholds to which considerable areas of Crown lands are attached. The average area of alienated holdings for the whole western division is 1,582 acres, the average in many counties, owing to the small number of holdings, being very large. In Waljeers it reaches 8,934 acres; in Manara, 8,057 acres; in Franklin, 7,260 acres; in Caira, 6,430 acres; and in Landsborough, 4,979 acres. The average in Perry is 3,855 acres; in Finch, 3,362 acres; in Menindie, 2,720 acres; in Tara, 2,551 acres; in Windeyer, 2,320 acres; in Kilfera, 1,820 acres; in Narran, 1,771 acres; Clyde, 1,594 acres; Mossgiel, 1,520 acres; Blaxland, 1,452 acres; and in Wentworth, 1,422 acres. In Gunderbooka it is 1,133 acres, and in Irrara 1,053 acres; diminishing in the other counties from 994 acres in Woore to 216 acres in Booroondarra, while in Yancowinna (in the Broken Hill District) there are 322 holdings averaging 66 acres each. The land is used purely for pastoral purposes, except in the vicinity of townships, where market-gardening and fruit-growing are carried on, principally by Chinese.

The area of alienated land enclosed in this division is 1,611,461 acres; and unenclosed, 146,386 acres. Under cultivation there is an area of 9,456 acres, only 255 acres of which are tilled by tenants. The average area of large estates over 10,000 acres in extent is 32,075 acres.

The holdings on the western plains may be classified as follows :—

Size of Holdings.	Alienated Holdings.	Area of Holdings.		Area under Cultivation.	
		Total.	Proportion to Total Area of District.	Total.	Proportion to Area of Holdings.
	No.	acres.	per cent.	acres.	per cent.
1 to 30 acres	413	1,031	0·06	149	14·45
31 to 400 acres	340	49,344	2·80	1,996	4·05
401 to 1,000 acres.....	169	111,959	6·37	2,204	1·97
1,001 to 10,000 acres ...	155	504,951	28·73	3,565	0·71
10,001 acres and upwards	34	1,090,562	62·04	1,542	.....

The area of Crown lands occupied in this division is very large, there being no less than 72,630,276 acres under various forms of lease. Under homestead lease there are 9,192,323 acres. There is a small area of 418,417 acres under conditional lease, granted under the Act of 1884, but this form of lease is no longer obtainable in the western

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division. The number of lessees of Crown lands is 1,743, of whom 1,319 occupy Crown lands in addition to their alienated holdings, while 424 occupy Crown lands only. The value of improvements is returned at £5,107,105—an average of about 1s. 5d. per acre occupied.

The total number of occupiers of land in the division, whether alienated or leased from the Crown, is 2,430, classified as follows:—Agriculturists only, 59; graziers only, 1,711; dairy farmers only, 5; agriculturists and graziers, 157; agriculturist and dairy farmer, 1; graziers and dairy farmers, 54; agriculturists, graziers, and dairy farmers, 38; and others—residential, miners, carriers, etc.—405. Taking the number engaged in each of the three pursuits, whether solely or otherwise, it will be seen that there are 255 engaged in agriculture, 1,960 in grazing, and 98 in dairy farming. The total area of alienated lands and Crown lands occupied is 74,388,123 acres, and after deducting the area cultivated, the extent of land devoted to pastoral pursuits will be only a few thousand acres short of that total. The total area of the counties of the western plains is computed at 82,705,080 acres, and the area remaining unoccupied or unalienated is, therefore, little more than eight and a quarter million acres.

Area of Holdings.

It will be gathered from an analysis of the figures which have been given that settlement in New South Wales has hitherto tended towards the concentration into comparatively few hands of the lands alienated to a large number of individual selectors, and that in the great majority of cases the owner of the land is also the occupier. Tenancy, as understood in older settled communities, has made comparatively little progress, 90·9 per cent. of the land alienated being yet in the occupancy of the proprietors themselves, or an area of 37,924,219 acres; whilst only 3,811,854 acres, or 9·1 per cent., are held under lease from the freeholders.

The following table shows the number of holdings of various sizes throughout the Colony, distinguishing freehold from rented land:—

Size of Holdings.	Number of Holdings consisting of—				Total Number of Holdings.
	Freehold Land.	Private Rented Land.	Partly Freehold & partly Private Rented Land.	Freehold with Crown Lands attached.	
1 to 30 acres	9,423	5,119	693	168	15,403
31 to 400 acres	16,853	6,548	1,980	5,523	30,904
401 to 1,000 acres	3,191	618	583	3,177	7,569
1,001 to 10,000 acres	1,601	230	370	2,287	4,488
10,001 acres and upwards	76	6	23	551	656
Total	31,144	12,521	3,649	11,706	59,020

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The area of the holdings referred to in the table just given, whether freehold or rented, will be found in the figures subjoined, which also show the percentage of alienated land to be found in the holdings of each specified size, as well as the proportion each size of holding, whether freehold or rented, bears to the total area alienated :—

Size of Holdings.	Area of Holdings.			Proportion to Total Alienated Area of the Colony.		
	Freehold.	Rented.	Total.	Freehold.	Rented.	Total.
	acres.	acres.	acres.	℘ cent.	℘ cent.	℘ cent.
1 to 30 acres	80,633	55,921	136,554	0·19	0·14	0·33
31 to 400 acres	3,660,882	977,365	4,638,247	8·77	2·34	11·11
401 to 1,000 acres	4,186,310	628,599	4,814,909	10·03	1·51	11·53
1,001 to 10,000 acres ...	10,468,845	1,366,535	11,835,380	25·08	3·28	28·36
10,001 acres and upwards	19,527,549	783,434	20,310,983	46·78	1·88	48·67
Total.....	37,924,219	3,811,854	41,736,073	90·85	9·15	100·00

The above figures strikingly illustrate the present condition of colonization in New South Wales, and their meaning should not be lost sight of by those who watch with attention the various phases of settlement in this country. The proportion of land in holdings less than 30 acres in extent is only 0·33 per cent. of the total area of land alienated in the Colony, and represents an aggregate of 136,554 acres out of a total of 41,736,073 acres; this small acreage consists of 15,403 holdings, each occupying an average of 8·9 acres. Holdings between 31 and 400 acres in extent number 30,904, with an aggregate area of 4,638,247 acres, or 11·11 per cent. of the area alienated in the Colony, giving an average of 150 acres per holding. It is in this category that a great portion of the land devoted to cultivation is to be found. In areas between 401 and 1,000 acres are to be found 7,569 estates, the number decreasing rapidly as the area increases, aggregating in all 4,814,909 acres, or 11·54 per cent. of the area alienated, giving each an average of 635 acres. The tendency just noted becomes still more marked in the holdings between 1,001 and 10,000 acres in extent, their number being only 4,488, whilst they aggregate 11,835,380 acres, or 28·36 per cent. of the total area alienated in the Colony, giving an average of 2,637 acres per holding. The climax is reached, however, in the holdings

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of more than 10,000 acres in extent; of these there are but 656, aggregating 20,310,983 acres, or 48·66 per cent. of the whole area alienated from the Crown, each averaging an area of 30,962 acres.

Settlement and Agriculture.

Some remarks as to the relative state of agriculture and of settlement on the alienated rural lands of the Colony cannot fail to be of interest, especially when read in conjunction with the preceding figures. The following table deals with this question, and the figures carry with them their own explanation :—

Size of Holdings.	Alienated Holdings.	Area Alienated.		Area Cultivated.	
		Total.	Proportion to area of Colony.	Total.	Proportion to Area Alienated.
	No.	acres.	per cent.	acres.	per cent.
1 to 30 acres	15,503	136,554	0·07	47,698	34·92
31 to 400 acres	30,904	4,638,247	2·37	559,757	12·06
401 to 1,000 acres	7,569	4,814,909	2·46	294,766	6·12
1,001 to 10,000 acres	4,488	11,835,380	6·04	305,342	2·58
10,001 acres and upwards	656	20,310,983	10·37	102,096	0·50
Total or proportion	59,020	41,736,073	21·31	1,309,659	3·14

Although the highest proportion of land cultivated in any of these series, when compared with the total area alienated in the Colony, is found in holdings from 31 to 400 acres in extent, yet when compared with the aggregate area alienated in the series itself it represents only 12·06 per cent. of it; whilst on the smaller holdings, less than 31 acres in extent, as much as 34·92 per cent. of the area alienated is under cultivation. The proportion considerably decreases as the higher areas are reached, being reduced to 0·5 per cent. in those over 10,000 acres.

From the table given on page 695, some interesting information may be gleaned with regard to the proportion of the number of owners of land who still occupy their freeholds, those who reside on rented lands, and those who occupy, in addition to their freeholds, lands rented either from private owners or from the Crown; but a more comprehensive view of these two phases of settlement may be obtained by an

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examination of the following table, in which the holdings are divided into a greater number of categories according to their sizes :—

Size of Holdings.	Holdings consisting of—				Total Holdings.	Total Area.
	Freehold Land.	Private Rented Land.	Partly Freehold & partly Private Rented Land.	Freehold, with Crown Lands attached.		
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	acres.
1 to 5 acres	5,081	2,407	227	109	7,824	20,730
6 to 15 acres	2,770	1,405	269	33	4,477	43,887
16 to 30 acres	1,572	1,307	197	26	3,102	71,937
31 to 50 acres	3,521	1,783	230	650	6,184	258,655
51 to 100 acres	4,334	2,157	417	1,069	7,977	635,160
101 to 200 acres	4,817	1,518	666	1,443	8,444	1,284,237
201 to 300 acres	2,293	641	401	1,062	4,397	1,112,623
301 to 400 acres	1,888	449	266	1,299	3,902	1,347,572
401 to 500 acres	909	213	172	556	1,850	849,838
501 to 600 acres	606	107	97	398	1,208	672,089
601 to 700 acres	869	144	101	1,510	2,624	1,692,832
701 to 800 acres	353	63	94	278	788	598,085
801 to 900 acres	226	38	69	214	547	468,785
901 to 1,000 acres	228	53	50	221	552	533,280
1,001 to 1,500 acres	620	116	140	720	1,596	1,990,433
1,501 to 2,000 acres	330	51	84	414	879	1,570,960
2,001 to 3,000 acres	312	36	65	409	822	2,040,527
3,001 to 4,000 acres	150	7	36	256	449	1,578,891
4,001 to 5,000 acres	60	6	15	155	236	1,075,782
5,001 to 7,500 acres	82	7	22	208	319	1,950,185
7,501 to 10,000 acres	47	7	8	125	187	1,628,602
10,001 to 15,000 acres	34	3	14	168	219	2,723,109
15,001 to 20,000 acres	17	2	3	98	120	2,112,270
20,001 to 30,000 acres	12	1	3	100	116	2,894,910
30,001 to 40,000 acres	6	...	1	52	59	2,065,876
40,001 acres and upwards	7	...	2	133	142	10,514,818
Total	31,144	12,521	3,649	11,706	59,020	41,736,073

From the above it will be seen that the total number of occupiers of freeholds only is 31,144, the proportion to the total number of occupiers being fairly constant in each size of holdings. Absolute tenants, who number 12,521, are far more numerous in the smaller classes of holdings, and rapidly diminish both in number and in proportion as the estates become larger. The same is the case with regard to holders of freehold and rented land, who number only 3,649; whilst the reverse obtains in holdings to which Crown lands are attached, their number and proportion increasing with the size of the holdings. There are 11,706 such estates, the majority of holdings over 1,000 acres in extent being found in this category.

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The following figures show the various purposes for which the rural holdings, whether alienated or leased from the Crown, are used :—

Size of Holdings.	Holdings devoted to—								Total Holdings.	Total Area Alienated in each Series.	Area of Crown Lands attached to Alienated Holdings.
	Agriculture.	Grazing.	Dairy Farming.	Agriculture and Grazing.	Agriculture and Dairy Farming.	Grazing and Dairy Farming.	Agriculture, Grazing, and Dairy Farming.	Others—Residential, Miners, Carriers, etc.			
Acres.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	acres.	acres.
1 to 30	6,439	3,482	872	1,069	580	145	185	2,631	15,403	136,554	69,465
31 to 400	6,964	6,596	1,847	5,386	3,272	1,452	4,075	1,313	30,904	4,638,247	11,643,209
401 to 1,000 ..	484	2,143	319	1,606	400	581	1,857	229	7,569	4,814,909	14,477,123
1,001 to 10,000..	67	1,385	88	965	64	546	1,302	71	4,488	11,835,380	46,943,612
Over 10,000....	..	295	1	137	2	73	147	1	656	20,310,983	25,675,327
	13,904	13,900	127	9,163	4,318	2,797	7,566	4,245	59,020	41,736,073	98,808,736
Crown Lands only, irrespective of area	110	1,497	22	128	2	42	40	265	2,106	.....	18,208,396
Total	14,014	15,397	3,149	9,291	4,320	2,839	7,606	4,510	61,126	41,736,073	117,017,132

In many cases it is difficult to decide in which class a holding should be placed, but in the above table holders are distributed, as far as possible, according to the pursuit from which their main profit is derived. Thus, although every farmer is to some extent necessarily a grazier, he is only classed as a farmer and grazier when it is evident that he follows both pursuits for profit; a farmer using land simply for grazing the stock required for working his farm is classed as an agriculturist; and, similarly, a pastoralist who cultivates a small area, the produce of which is consumed on his estate, is classed only as a grazier. In the above classification no occupier is counted more than once, and the result is as follows:—Agriculturists only, 14,014; graziers only, 15,397; dairy farmers only, 3,149; agriculturists and graziers, 9,291; agriculturists and dairy farmers, 4,320; graziers and dairy farmers, 2,839; agriculturists, graziers, and dairy farmers, 7,606; others—residential, miners, carriers, etc.—4,510; total, 61,126. But on the basis of the number engaged in each industry, whether solely or in conjunction with one of the others, it will be seen that there are 35,231 agriculturists, 35,133 graziers, and 17,914 dairy-farmers.

The area alienated in holdings from 1 to 30 acres in extent is 136,554 acres, and the area of Crown lands held in conjunction therewith is 69,465 acres, making a total of 206,019 acres held by 15,403 occupiers. The area cultivated in this series is 47,698 acres by 8,273 holders (including 1,834 who also use land for grazing and dairying), or an average of

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about 5¾ acres each. There are, therefore, 8,964 holders using 158,321 acres for grazing, dairying, and residential purposes, giving an average of about 17½ acres each.

In holdings from 31 to 400 acres in extent there are 4,638,247 acres alienated, with 11,643,209 acres of Crown lands attached, or a total of 16,281,456 acres held by 30,904 occupiers. The area cultivated is 559,757 acres by 19,697 holders (including 12,733 who also use land for pastoral and other purposes), giving an average of nearly 30 acres each. The number using land for pastoral and other purposes is, therefore, 23,940, on an area of 15,721,699 acres, or an average of about 657 acres each.

The area alienated in holdings from 401 to 1,000 acres is 4,814,909 acres, and the extent of Crown lands occupied therewith 14,477,123 acres, or a total of 19,392,032 acres held by 7,569 persons, giving an average of about 2,560 acres each. The area cultivated is 294,766 acres by 4,297 holders (including 3,863 who are also engaged in pastoral and dairying pursuits), or an average of about 69 acres each. There are, therefore, 7,135 occupiers using 19,097,266 acres chiefly for grazing and dairying, or an average of about 2,677 acres each.

In the series which includes all holdings from 1,001 to 10,000 acres in extent, the area alienated is 11,835,380 acres, and the Crown lands held in conjunction therewith amount to 46,943,612 acres, so that the 4,488 occupiers hold an area of 58,778,992 acres, giving an average of about 13,100 acres each. The area cultivated is 305,342 acres by 2,398 holders (including 2,331 who also use land for grazing), or an average of 128 acres. There are 4,421 occupiers using 58,473,650 acres for pastoral purposes, or an average of 13,226 acres each.

The area of Crown lands attached to the 656 alienated holdings over 10,000 acres is 25,675,327 acres, and the alienated area being 20,310,983 acres, the total held by these occupiers is 45,986,310 acres. The area cultivated is 102,096 acres by 286 holders, all of whom, of course, are pastoralists. The average area cultivated by each is about 360 acres. The total area used for pastoral pursuits is 45,884,214 acres, giving an average of 69,945 acres to each holding.

There are 2,106 occupiers of Crown lands only, not connected with alienated holdings, the area leased being 18,208,396 acres, or an average of about 86,450 acres each, devoted almost entirely to grazing. There is, however, on Crown lands an area of 18,543 acres under cultivation, which is practically all in this section. The number of cultivators is 280, of whom 110 are agriculturists only. With the exception of the small lots in the vicinity of townships held by the agriculturists just mentioned, the greater part of this area is connected more with the pastoral industry, the crops being chiefly hay for station use.

The total area of alienated holdings over 1 acre in extent in the Colony is 41,736,073 acres, and of the Crown lands occupied, 117,017,132 acres, making a total of 158,753,205 acres. Of this area, 157,427,241 acres

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are used for grazing and dairying, and 1,325,964 acres for agriculture. The total value of improvements on Crown lands is returned at £9,340,234.

It has been shown that there are 35,231 holders engaged in agriculture (including 21,217 who combine this pursuit with grazing and dairying), and the average area cultivated by each is about 38 acres. There are 47,112 occupiers using land for grazing and dairying and other purposes, giving an average of about 3,340 acres to each holder.

Labour Settlements.

In June, 1893, an Act was passed to promote the establishment of labour settlements, thus enabling persons without capital to provide for themselves and their families. The land may be leased for twenty-eight years, with a right of renewal, and loans of money are granted to enable the settlers to carry on operations, the first repayment of the loan and the rent of the land not being required until four years from the date of the lease. During 1894 an Amending Act was passed, empowering the Minister to double the amount of loan authorised under the original Act. The control of each establishment is left in the hands of a Board. Funds are provided by the Treasury from which the Board may, with the approval of the Minister, grant the following sums:—To each enrolled member with a family dependent on him, not exceeding £50; to married persons without family, a sum not exceeding £40; and to each member unmarried, a sum not exceeding £30. At the close of the year 1894, three settlements were in existence, viz., Pitt Town, Wilberforce, and Bega. The Pitt Town settlement, which was established in June, 1893, has an area of 2,100 acres. The total population at the end of 1894 was 451, viz., 92 men, 84 women, and 275 children. The value of improvements, exclusive of crops, is £4,655, and the total amount of loans advanced, £5,450. The Bega settlement was established in July, 1893, the area being 1,360 acres and the population consisting of 14 men, 14 women, and 49 children, or a total of 77. The improvements are valued at £800, and the amount of loans is £700. In August, 1893, the Wilberforce settlement was formed, and now contains 1,630 acres, finding home and employment for 32 men and 63 women, with 22 children, or a total population of 117. The value of improvements is £1,436, and the amount of loans advanced £1,450.

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PART XXII.

INTERNAL COMMUNICATION.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

FOR many years settlement was restricted to the narrow belt of land shut in between the Blue Mountains and the sea. Several main roads were formed through this country within a few years after the foundation of the Colony. These roads connected the infant towns of Parramatta, Liverpool, Windsor, and Penrith with the metropolis, and were constructed entirely by bond labour. The abrupt wall of sandstone rising on the farther side of the Nepean barred all access to the interior of the country. As early as the year 1796 George Bass made an attempt to cross the mountain range, but returned after an unsuccessful journey, reporting that it was impossible to find a passage even for a person on foot. In 1813 a protracted season of drought, attended by considerable losses amongst the stock, brought home very clearly to the settlers the conviction that the future of the Colony entirely depended upon the extension of grazing land beyond the narrow limits within which they were then hemmed. In the month of May of that year Mr. Gregory Blaxland, Mr. W. C. Wentworth, and Lieutenant Lawson attempted to find a passage across the mountains. After meeting with difficulties which seem astonishing enough to the present generation, who have seen a railway carried over the same track by which Bathurst may be reached in a few hours, these gentlemen succeeded in opening a way—sometimes by creeping through dense forests, at others by scaling tremendous precipices—to the vast plains lying west of the Great Cordillera of Australia. They returned on the 6th June, and shortly afterwards Governor Macquarie sent a party of surveyors, under Mr. George W. Evans, Deputy Surveyor-General, to report on the practicability of making a road. The report was favour-

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able, and the construction of the great western highway was at once commenced, the work being performed by gangs of bond labourers. The track thus made formed a continuation of the Great Western Road from Penrith, and it was completed as far as Bathurst by the 21st January, 1815.

The discovery of the Bathurst Plains and the completion of the mountain road gave so great an impetus to settlement that it was found impossible to keep pace in the matter of roads with the demands of the settlers. The Government, therefore, contented itself with maintaining the roads already constructed, and extending them in the direction of the principal centres of settlement. For many years these main roads were the only ones which received attention. This would perhaps have been sufficient had the progress of settlement subsequent to 1850 been similar to that made during previous years. Such, however, was not the case. The gold discovery entirely altered the circumstances of the Colony, and during the period of excitement and change which followed that remarkable event so many new roads were opened, and traffic increased so largely, that the general condition of the public highways was by no means good. The Roads Department was formed as far back as 1857, and although good service was done by the road pioneers before that date, the modern system of roadmaking may be said to have begun with the creation of the department. It was not, however, until 1864 that the whole of the roads, both main and subordinate, received attention at the hands of the State.

The principal main roads of the Colony are :—

Northern Road—length, 405 miles, from Morpeth to Maryland, New England.

Western Road—length, 338 miles, from Sydney to Warren through Bathurst, Orange, and many other important townships; thence prolonged to the Darling, at Bourke, by a line 175 miles in length.

Southern Road—length, 385 miles, from Sydney to Albury. This road was, before the construction of the railway, the great highway between Sydney and Melbourne.

South Coast Road—length, 250 miles. This road, after leaving Campbelltown, ascends the coast range, along the top of which it runs as far as Coal Cliff. It then traverses the Illawarra district, parallel to the coast, and passes through the rich lands watered by the Shoalhaven, Clyde, and Moruya, as far as Bega, whence it extends, as a minor road, to the southern limit of the Colony.

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None of these roads has now the importance which it formerly possessed. The railways of the Colony for the most part follow the direction of the main roads, and attract to themselves nearly all the through traffic. The tendency now is to make the roads act as feeders to the railway, by converging the traffic from outlying districts towards convenient stations along the line.

The expenditure by the Government upon the different roads is made in accordance with the recommendation of the resident engineer for the district, which is based upon the requirements for each road. Formerly the roads of the Colony were divided into seven classes according to their importance, and the yearly expenditure ranged from £50 per mile on roads in the first class to £5 per mile on those in the seventh class.

The network of roads spreading over the face of the Colony is divided, for purposes of maintenance, into road districts and road trusts. The whole Colony is divided into sixty-two road districts, each of which is placed in the charge of a resident engineer, who is directly responsible to the Engineer-in-Chief for Public Works. The resident engineers have the greater part of the road communication of the Colony outside the municipal boundaries, as well as a portion of the roads within municipalities, under their care. The road trusts have the supervision of the expenditure of certain grants for the maintenance of roads in districts which are chiefly of minor importance; there are, however, certain important roads in the vicinity of the metropolis governed by trusts. The length of roads in charge of resident engineers on the 30th June, 1895, was 33,426 miles, while about 1,705 miles were under the care of road trusts. There were also 940 miles within municipal areas, which were subsidised by the Department, making a total of 36,071 miles under control. The length of road which had been metalled, ballasted, or gravelled was not less than 6,513 miles. There were also 4,567 miles of road-way not indeed metalled, but which had been formed and drained, and on which all necessary culverts had been constructed; 11,524 miles of road which had been cleared and partly drained; and 11,980 miles of road which wind their way through the forests of the interior, chiefly along the lines marked out by the cart-wheels of the foremost settlers, and form, in dry weather, adequate means of communication for the settlers, although it must be acknowledged that in seasons of rain these roads are frequently impassable. Besides the roads mentioned above, there were 1,486 miles of mountain passes. Many of these passes presented the most formidable difficulties, and their construction reflects great credit upon the engineering skill of the officer, now deceased, who for so many years designed and supervised the construction and maintenance of the roads and bridges of the Colony.

Many of the earliest bridges erected in the Colony were of stone, and are still existing. Those erected in the period following the extension of settlement to the interior were chiefly of timber, and have since been

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replaced, after a life of about twenty-five years. Nearly all the large bridges of recent date are of iron or steel, and some of them have been erected under engineering conditions almost unique, owing to the peculiarity of the river-flow in certain parts of the country. There were altogether, on the 30th June, 1895, 3,659 bridges of over 15 feet span, comprising 7,902 spans, covering a length of 264,315 feet; while there were also 27,603 culverts up to 15 feet span, 409,990 feet in length; and 12,383 causeways, with a total length of 296,812 feet. Where the traffic has not warranted the construction of bridges, or where local circumstances have rendered them inadvisable, punts or ferries have been introduced. At the end of the year there were 288 punts, 7 of which were propelled by steam, and 66 by hand power; besides which the Department had charge of 1 horse boat and 65 flood boats. On an average, 1,446 men were employed during each month, in addition to 4,194 men engaged by contractors, making a total of 5,640 men.

The use of roads as the main arteries along which traffic from the metropolis to the interior flows has been superseded by the railways; but the roads remain not only the sole means of communication throughout a large part of the interior, but as most valuable feeders to the railway system of the country. No revenue is directly derived from roads, but their indirect advantages to the country have been very great, and after the lands and the railways they form the largest item of national property. It is estimated that £16,308,000 has been expended on roads and bridges since 1857, and their present value to the State, allowing for depreciation, cannot be less than £14,000,000. Their indirect value cannot be calculated; but as an instance of the change brought about by the system of road construction, it may be mentioned that after the organization of the Roads Department on its present basis the cost of carriage of goods by road and the time of transit were reduced by more than one half, as will appear from the following statement:—

Main Roads.	Distance.	Carriage by Road, 1857.		Carriage by Road, 1864.	
		Time in transit.	Cost per ton.	Time in transit.	Cost per ton.
	miles.	days.	£ s. d.	days.	£ s. d.
Sydney to Goulburn	134	17½	12 5 0	7½	3 15 0
,, Bathurst.....	145	23½	15 10 0	11	6 10 0
Newcastle to Murrurundi.....	119	21	9 0 0	8	6 10 0

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The progress exhibited during these seven years is very great. Part of the improvement may without hesitation be ascribed to better roads; but the decline in the demand for teams consequent on the cessation of the gold rush was also a cause of the lessened cost of transit. The price of carriage by road has not declined since 1864, most of the traffic being through districts remote from the centres of population, where the requirements of the teamsters are costly to supply. The roads followed by the teams are those leading to the railway lines, and the loading consists for the most part of station supplies, wool, and other produce. The rates vary according to the distance and the nature of the country traversed, but the following scale may be taken as typical of the ordinary charges for outward loading—that is, from the interior to the railways. Inward goods average about 1d. per mile less than those outward:—

	s.	d.	
Up to 40 miles	1	6	per ton per mile.
,, 100 ,, ...	1	0	,,
,, 200 ,, ...	0	11	,,
,, 300 ,, ...	0	10	,,

A slight consideration of these figures will be sufficient to show how greatly the business of the country has been facilitated by the construction of railways. If 100 miles be assumed as the average distance which goods are carried, the prevailing rate by teams would be 12d. per ton per mile. On the railways, as far back as 1872, the carriage was only 3·6d., and to-day it averages not more than 1·9d. It would be overstating the case against road carriage, however, if the latter figure were compared with the average price charged by teams; but a comparison in every respect perfectly fair can be made between the cost of carrying general merchandise by rail, which is only 2·16d. per ton per mile, and that of goods by teams, which, as stated above, is 12d. per ton per mile. The saving by rail carriage is, therefore, 82 per cent., and if it had been possible for the whole of the railway traffic for the year ended June 30, 1895, to be carried by teams, the cost would have been £10,307,237 instead of the sum of £1,855,303 actually charged by the Railway Commissioners. In the portion of this chapter devoted to goods traffic on the railways, particulars are given of the gradual cheapening of this form of carriage during the past twenty years.

During several months, both of 1894 and of 1895, the old time spectacle might be seen of huge loads of goods being carried along the main roads within sight of the railway lines. The price paid to carriers was not usually disclosed, but from the nature of things it was probably less than would have been paid to the Railway Commissioners for the same service. The competition of teams with the railway for the carriage of a certain class of goods was made possible by the extreme cheapness of fodder and the low price of horses, and to the circumstance

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that a number of carriers could not otherwise find employment; it, moreover, only lasted for a few months in each year, and did not affect the railway earnings to any appreciable extent.

The total expenditure on account of roads of all classes during 1894 was £549,276; this sum, however, included the administrative expenses of the department, and the expenditure on punt approaches and similar works incidental to the road traffic of the country. In the following statement is given the expenditure on account of the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges for thirty-eight years, with details for the past fourteen years. Taking the table as a whole, it is plain that this form of expenditure has grown at a rate very much faster than that of the general population:—

Year.	Expenditure by Roads Department.	Expenditure by Trustees.	Total.
	£	£	£
1857 to 1880	5,430,923	782,907	6,213,830
1881	484,567	23,186	507,753
1882	577,212	24,722	601,934
1883	613,847	24,938	638,785
1884	750,584	27,722	778,306
1885	800,962	24,404	825,366
1886	628,379	28,414	656,793
1887	721,994	45,433	767,427
1888	663,929	31,503	695,432
1889	632,398	31,361	663,759
1890	770,809	34,500	805,309
1891	965,688	31,990	997,678
1892	859,028	30,605	889,633
1893	686,233	30,330	716,563
1894	527,726	21,550	549,276
Total	15,114,279	1,193,565	16,307,844

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Besides the roads maintained by the Government, there existed, at the close of the municipal year in February, 1895, 7,476 miles of roads and streets belonging to and largely maintained by the municipalities of the Colony. Of these roads, 2,306 miles were regularly formed and metalled, and 1,572 formed; while 1,553 miles were cleared, and 2,045 miles not cleared. The value of these roads is estimated at £4,800,000; but this sum must be looked upon as an approximation only, as the information obtained from the various municipalities is not complete.

RAILWAYS.

The first attempt to introduce into New South Wales the blessing of railway communication, which has so revolutionised the commerce of the older parts of the world, was made in 1846. On the 26th August of that year a meeting was held in Sydney at which it was decided to survey a line to connect the metropolis with the city of Goulburn. Two years afterwards, on the 11th September, 1848, the Sydney Tramroad and Railway Company was formed, with a capital of £100,000, having for its object the construction of railways to Parramatta and Liverpool, with possible extensions, in course of time, to Bathurst and Goulburn. No time was lost in breaking ground, and on the 3rd July, 1850, the Hon. Mrs. Keith Stewart, daughter of the Governor, Sir Charles Fitzroy, turned the first sod of the first railway constructed in Australia. The affairs of the Sydney Tramroad and Railway Company, however, did not prosper as the promoters had expected they would do, and it was found necessary to transfer the property of the company to the Government of the Colony. Meanwhile another company had been started in 1853, with the object of constructing a railway from the city of Newcastle to Maitland; but it met with no more success than the Sydney company, and shared the same fate. On the Government taking possession of the property of the defunct companies, however, the works were carried on with more vigour, and on the 26th September, 1855, the line from Sydney to Parramatta was declared open for public traffic, and the extension to Goulburn was opened on the 27th May, 1869.

The progress of railway construction during the twenty years which followed the opening of the first line was very slow, for in 1875 the length of the lines in operation had only reached 435 miles, or at the rate of 21¾ miles opened per year. Not a single mile of railway was opened during the years 1865 and 1866; but in 1867 the construction of these great commercial highways received a fresh impetus, and continued to advance yearly until 1872, when it stood still for another period of two years, during which only 5 miles of line were thrown open to traffic. During 1875, 33 miles were opened, and from the succeeding year till 1889 still greater activity prevailed, 1,748 miles being constructed during this period, or a yearly average of 125 miles;

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but this rate of increase received a check, and only 14 miles were opened during the three following years. There were, however, 154 miles opened during the railway year ending June, 1893; 150½ miles in the succeeding year; and 30 miles in the year ended June, 1895, while the length of line under construction at the last-mentioned date was 63 miles.

The following table shows the number of miles of line opened in each year, as well as the total length in operation. The Campbelltown-Camden Tramway and the Kogarah-Sans Souci Tramway are here included among the railways. Prior to 1888 the railway accounts were closed at the end of each year, but at that date the change was introduced of reckoning the working year from the 1st July to the 30th June. It should be noted that the figures refer only to State lines; there were 85 miles of private railways open in the Colony in 1895:—

Year.	Opened during the year.	Total opened.	Year.	Opened during the year.	Total opened.
	miles.	miles.		miles.	miles.
1855	16	16	1876	73	508
1856	9	25	1877	90	598
1857	17	42	1878	90	688
1858	15	57	1879	45	733
1859	nil.	57	1880	115	848
1860	13	70	1881	148	996
1861	4	74	1882	282	1,278
1862	24	98	1883	52	1,330
1863	27	125	1884	301	1,631
1864	20	145	1885	114	1,745
1865	nil.	145	1886	162	1,907
1866	nil.	145	1887	151	2,058
1867	60	205	1888	68	2,126
1868	44	249	1889	57	2,183
1869	70	319	1890	10	2,193
1870	21	340	1891	1	2,194
1871	19	359	1892	3	2,197
1872	38	397	1893	154	2,351
1873	5	402	1894	150	2,501
1874	nil.	402	1895	30	2,531
1875	33	435			

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Of the 2,531 miles in operation in June, 1895, there were 2,368 miles of single line, 154½ miles of double line, and 8½ miles of line with four tracks.

The progress of the accommodation afforded by the State railways of the Colony can be fairly gauged by comparing the number of persons to each mile of line open for traffic at different periods, and the average number of train miles run per inhabitant. Thus in 1860 there were 4,979 persons to each mile of line, but by the end of the year 1880 the work of construction had proceeded at a rate so much faster than the increase in the population that the average number of persons per mile had fallen to 882, so that the facilities afforded by the railways were more than five times as great as in the year first named; while in 1895 the average population per mile of line was reduced to 501. The increase in the average number of train miles run per inhabitant has been very rapid, rising from 0·5 miles in 1860 to 1·8 in 1870, 4·4 in 1880, and 7·4 miles in 1890. The maximum was reached in 1891, when the number of train miles run per head of the population averaged 7·5. For the year ended 30th June, 1895, the rate was, approximately, 6 miles to each member of the community. The following statement illustrates the extension of railway facilities since 1860:—

Year.	Population to each mile of line.	Number of train miles run	Number of train miles run per head of population.
1860	4,979	174,249	0·5
1865	2,822	483,446	1·2
1870	1,467	901,139	1·8
1875	1,366	1,472,204	2·5
1880	882	3,239,462	4·4
1885	544	6,638,399	7·2
1886	519	6,479,265	6·7
1887	496	6,472,107	6·4
1888	487	6,689,313	6·6
1889	489	7,641,769	7·3
1890	502	8,008,826	7·4
1891	521	8,410,421	7·5
1892	538	8,356,096	7·2
1893	515	7,505,310	6·3
1894	495	7,169,785	5·9
1895	501	7,594,281	6·1

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Points of comparison between the railways of a large and thinly-inhabited country such as New South Wales and those of the countries of the Old World are difficult to obtain. The following table, however, shows the average population and the average number of square miles of territory per mile of line open, in the principal countries of the world. The figures given for the Australasian colonies include both State and private lines. It will be seen that New South Wales comes fairly well out of the comparison :—

Countries.	Length of Railway.	Population per Mile of Line.	Area per Mile of Line.
	miles.	No.	sq. miles.
Australasia :—			
New South Wales	2,616	478	119
Victoria	3,120	378	28
Queensland	2,379	187	281
South Australia	1,888	187	479
Western Australia	1,142	72	855
Tasmania	475	331	55
New Zealand	2,168	316	48
America :—			
Argentine Republic	8,357	542	134
Brazil	7,456	1,930	432
Canada	15,769	306	219
Chili	1,926	1,312	151
United States of America	178,709	350	16
Europe :—			
Austria-Hungary	18,119	2,283	13
Belgium	3,401	1,785	3
France	24,455	1,568	8
Germany	27,863	1,774	7
Great Britain and Ireland	20,641	1,835	6
Italy	8,814	3,486	13
Netherlands	1,924	2,345	7
Russia	20,785	4,420	100
Asia :—			
India (British)	18,268	12,107	53

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The capital expended on all lines under Government control in New South Wales amounted, at the close of June, 1895, to £36,611,366. The capital expenditure at certain periods since the initiation of the railway system will be found in the following table :—

Year.	Capital expended on lines open.	Year.	Capital expended on lines open.
	£		£
1855	515,347	1888	27,722,748
1860	1,422,672	1889	29,839,167
1865	2,746,373	1890	30,555,123
1870	5,566,092	1891	31,768,617
1875	7,245,379	1892	33,312,608
1880	11,778,819	1893	34,657,571
1885	21,831,276	1894	35,855,271
1886	24,071,454	1895	36,611,366
1887	26,532,122		

New South Wales stands in a good position among the Australasian Colonies in regard to railway development, as will be seen from the following table, which shows the length of lines open for traffic in the various colonies in the early part of 1895 :—

Colony.	Lines Open.		
	Government.	Private.	Total.
	miles.	miles.	miles.
New South Wales...	2,531	85	2,616
Victoria	3,120	.....	3,120
Queensland	2,379	.....	2,379
South Australia	1,868	20	1,888
Western Australia...	570	572	1,142
Tasmania.....	420	55	475
New Zealand	1,993	175	2,168
Total	12,881	907	13,788

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The railway system of the Colony is divided into three distinct branches, each representing a system of its own. The southern system, including the principal line of the Colony, branches at Junee, and places the important district of Riverina, as far as the town of Hay in one direction, and Jerilderie in another, in direct communication with Sydney, from which they are distant 454 and 412 miles respectively; this branch is termed the south-western line. From several other points of the line branches connecting other important districts with the metropolis have been opened for traffic. From Cootamundra a line branches off in a southerly direction to Gundagai, and another in a north-westerly direction to Temora, whilst from Murrumburrah a line has been constructed which connects Blayney on the western line with the southern and western systems of the railways of the Colony. This practically enables direct railway communication to be made between Melbourne and Bourke, the capital, so to speak, of Central Australia; and the branch line has been found of much benefit in allowing the direct shipment of stock from the pasture grounds to the Victorian markets. Nearer Sydney the important town of Goulburn will be the centre of a system of branch lines, one of which—that from Goulburn to Cooma—is already laid down, and brings the rich pastoral district of Monaro in direct communication with Sydney. A branch from Culcairn to Corowa, on the Murray, was opened in October, 1892.

The southern main line is the most important of the railway lines in the Colony, as it passes through the richest and most thickly-populated districts, and places the four great capitals of Australia—Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide—in direct communication with each other. It was not until 1883 that this line was actually open for traffic, the railway bridge across the Murray River, which flows between Wodonga, the Victorian terminus, and Albury, the terminus of the southern line of New South Wales, having been completed in that year. The traffic, both of passengers and of goods, on the southern system generally, is very extensive, and arrangements for the regular carriage of mails between the two great cities enable letters to be delivered in less than twenty hours. Sleeping cars are attached to these trains on the New South Wales side, and the comfort of travellers is assured by the introduction of the most modern improvements in the construction and fitting up of the railway carriages. Since the completion of the railway from Melbourne to Adelaide, a distance of 509 miles, European mails are landed at the latter port and forwarded overland to all parts of Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland.

The western system of railways extends from Sydney in the direction of the Blue Mountains, of which it reaches the upper levels a little above Emu Plains by a direct line of steep gradient, which enables the locomotive to drag its heavy freight up the abrupt eastern slope of the

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mountains. Up to the 18th December, 1892, a zig-zag line was used to enable trains to climb this slope of the mountains; but on the date mentioned a deviation by which the zig-zag was avoided was opened for traffic. To admit of a direct line of ascent, a tunnel, 32½ chains in length, had to be constructed through part of a mountain. The line runs along the top of the range until it descends into a valley below Mount Clarence by the Lithgow zig-zag, the construction of which is a triumph of engineering skill. However, a proposal has been made for cutting out this larger zig-zag, and the matter was fully inquired into by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works. While it was recognised by the Committee that the work was a desirable one, and would be productive of economy by reason of the saving in railway work which would ensue, it was felt that the time was not opportune to incur the large capital expenditure of about a quarter of a million sterling which would be necessary for the completion of the work. For the present, therefore, the project is in abeyance, although it is probable that the gradient on the approaches to the zig-zag, which is 1 in 33, will shortly be improved. In its course over the mountains the line passes through magnificent scenery of a character peculiar to this part of the world, and remarkable for its rugged grandeur. Leaving the mountains, the western railway, after throwing out a branch from Wallerawang to Mudgee, enters the Bathurst Plains, and connects with the metropolis the rich agricultural lands of the Bathurst, Orange, and Wellington districts. Beyond Dubbo it enters the pastoral country, and reaches the Darling at Bourke, 503 miles from Sydney. At Orange a branch line, 97 miles in length, connects that town with Forbes. From Parkes, one of the stations on this line, an extension to Condobolin, 60½ miles distant, is about to be constructed. Farther west, at Nyngan, 377 miles from Sydney, a branch line has been opened, connecting the important mining district of Cobar with Sydney, and affording at the same time rapid and sure means of communication with the pastoral country, of which Cobar is also the centre. This line, it is expected, will eventually be continued as far as Wilcannia, on the Darling, whence it may be extended to Broken Hill, to meet the South Australian system. The western railway system also includes a short line from Blacktown to the Hawkesbury, *via* the towns of Windsor and Richmond.

The northern system originally commenced at Newcastle, but a connecting line between Homebush and Waratah has been constructed, making Sydney the head of the whole of the railway systems of the Colony. The Hawkesbury River has been crossed by an iron bridge, 2,896 feet long, in seven spans, the iron superstructure of which cost £327,000. This connecting line allows direct communication between Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane, a distance from end to end of 1,808 miles, and has been found of great value to those requiring quick transit, and for the carriage of postal matter. It facilitates,

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moreover, the active business life of the colonies, and will be of national importance should at any time strategic movements require to be made in connection with military operations.

The northern line runs *via* Newcastle and the great coal centres through the rich agricultural district of the Hunter Valley, to the important part of the Colony known as New England, passing through some of the largest inland towns in New South Wales, such as Maitland. The country traversed by this line north of Newcastle is extremely fertile. As the line goes farther north it passes through a rich pastoral and agricultural territory, and some important townships are reached, viz., Tamworth, Armidale, Glen Innes, and Tenterfield, and 11 miles beyond the last-mentioned township the line crosses the border at Wallangarra or Jennings, where a junction is effected with the Queensland railways.

The northern system also comprises a branch from Werris Creek to Narrabri, which is now being extended as far as Moree, in the north-west, and the Darling in the west, thus placing the Namoi and Gwydir pastoral districts in direct communication with the ports of Newcastle and Sydney. In the New England District a line has been long projected, which would connect the town of Glen Innes with that of Inverell on one side, and with the city of Grafton, on the Clarence, on the other; an alternative line has been surveyed to connect the Clarence and New England districts, the proposed junction on the Northern line being at Llangothlin, but both this route and the one proposed from Glen Innes to Grafton present physical difficulties of such a magnitude that it is doubtful if either line will be carried out, at all events for some time to come. A portion of the North Coast railway, 64 miles in length, from the Tweed River to Lismore, on the Richmond, was opened for traffic in 1894.

A short line was constructed in 1890, branching off the main northern line at Hornsby, 21 miles from Sydney, to Pearce's Corner, on the heights of St. Leonards, and this line was afterwards extended from the latter place to the north shore of Port Jackson, at Milson's Point. Proposals have been made from time to time to bridge the harbour, or to tunnel beneath it, and thus allow direct communication by rail between the suburbs on the north and the city on the south shore; and leave to introduce a Bill for the purpose of enabling a tunnel to be constructed by private enterprise was requested of Parliament at the end of 1895.

Besides the lines and branches included in the three systems above described, another line which forms part of the southern system has been constructed, connecting the metropolis with the coastal district of Illawarra, which is rich alike in coal and in the produce of agriculture. The present terminus is at Bomaderry, on the northern bank of the Shoalhaven River, opposite to Nowra, but it is proposed to take it eventually to Jervis Bay, closely following the coast line. A proposal has also been made for the construction of a line from the port of Eden

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at Twofold Bay, in the south of the Colony, to the township of Bega, in the centre of a rich agricultural district; but this is at present in abeyance. At Sydenham, on the Illawarra railway, a line, 5 miles in length, branches off to Belmore, and this will no doubt eventually be continued to Liverpool.

The railways of the Colony have been constructed with a large proportion of steep gradients, but much has been done during the last few years to reduce some of the heaviest of these. The Railway Commissioners, in one of their Annual Reports, drew a comparison between the New South Wales lines and the Alpine railways, and it was found that the gradients were steeper, and the curves sharper, on the lines of this Colony than on the Alpine lines. By reducing some of the gradients, and introducing locomotives of greater power than were formerly employed, considerable economy in working, as well as the expediting of traffic, has been effected. The traffic is now carried on more satisfactorily, and the expense of extensive duplication works, which would have been necessary under the system which previously existed, has been postponed for years. However, a great deal remains to be accomplished in the matter of reducing gradients, as will be seen on reference to the following table, which shows the number of miles on different gradients at the close of 1894, since which time but little work of the kind under notice has been undertaken :—

Gradients.	Southern System.	Western System.	Northern System.	Total.
1 in	mls. chs.	mls. chs.	mls. chs.	mls. chs.
18 to 30	5 9	1 63	.....	6 72
31 ,, 40	63 72½	86 0	37 26	187 18½
41 ,, 50	63 26	56 23	70 45	190 14
51 ,, 60	41 42	50 38	39 24	131 24
61 ,, 70	37 45	38 65	26 59	103 9
71 ,, 80	58 28	46 25	37 9	141 62
81 ,, 90	30 33	32 73	18 6	81 32
91 ,, 100	44 69	52 76	41 9	138 74
101 ,, 150	104 59	96 53	73 62	275 14
151 ,, 200	57 48	46 21	39 30	143 19
201 ,, 250	31 57	14 18	16 61	62 56
251 ,, 300	41 65	26 42	26 41	94 68
301 ,, level	512 61	219 19	212 37½	944 37½
Total.....	1,093 54½	768 36	639 9½	2,501 20

During the year ending June, 1892, the quadrupled lines to Flemington on the suburban line, 8⅛ miles from Sydney, were brought into use. The double lines in use at the end of June, 1895, were :—Flemington to Penrith, 26 miles; Granville to Picton, 39½ miles; Sydney to Waterfall, 23¾ miles; Strathfield to Hornsby, 14 miles; Newcastle to Maitland and towards Lochinvar, 21 miles; St. Leonards to Milson's Point,

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3 miles; Redfern to Darling Harbour, 1½ mile; Teralba to Adamstown, 8 miles; various short lengths of lines, 17¾ miles; or a total of 154½ miles.

The contrast between the present condition of the New South Wales railways and their humble beginning in 1855 is a remarkable one. In 1856, the first year which can be fairly taken for purposes of comparison, the number of passengers on the railways was only 350,724, whilst in the year ended June 30, 1895, the number was 19,725,418, or more than 56 times greater. But the tonnage of goods carried represents a very much larger increase, having grown from 2,469 to 4,075,093 tons, or about 1,650 times since the first full year of railway operations. For the first ten years of the period under review the larger part of the railway earnings was obtained from the passenger traffic, no doubt due to the fact that the first railways were almost entirely suburban. It was not until the line crossed the mountains and opened up the far interior that the proportions changed, and the goods traffic became the principal source of revenue of the railways This change began to take place in 1867.

The comparison between the earnings of the period prior to 1871—when the net result every year represented only a small portion of the interest due on the capital expended in the construction of the lines—and of the subsequent period, affords matter for satisfaction. The figures for 1886 and 1887 show a falling off from those of the previous fourteen years; but it should be borne in mind in comparing these two years with the excellent results exhibited during the period from 1874 to 1884, when an average of considerably over 4 per cent. was realised, that the fall in receipts was due in a great measure to the previous years of drought, and also to the uncertainty attaching to the land laws, which had recently been materially altered.

During the years 1884 and 1885 the last section of the main western line, extending over a distance of 112 miles as far as Bourke, was opened, and the line branching off from Wallerawang was completed as far as Mudgee, 63 miles being opened. On the south-western railway the branch line, Narrandera to Jerilderie, covering a distance of 65 miles, was opened for traffic. All of these extensions run through very sparsely settled districts, and this was the case with regard to nearly the whole of the other 172 miles opened during the two years mentioned. This total of 412 miles opened for traffic in unproductive country caused a serious falling off in the proportion of receipts to expenditure during the period ended June, 1888, the net revenue yielding less than 3 per cent. on the total expenditure. Since then the returns have improved step by step, rising in the years 1891 and 1892 to 3·6 per cent., declining in 1893 and 1894 to 3·5 per cent., but again rising to 3·6 in 1895. The burden of unprofitable lines continues to be heavy, but the expenses of working are kept as low as possible. The fact that the lines as a whole have not returned a profit should

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occasion no surprise, as the statistics of railways in all parts of the world show that few lines, except perhaps suburban ones, return anything like a profit during the first few years after their opening. In England a period of seven years has been allowed by good authorities for a line to develop traffic; and if such is the fact in more densely-populated countries, whose resources are more developed than is the case in New South Wales, there is every reason to be satisfied with the fact that the lines of this Colony have yielded so good a return as they have. And there is good cause to hope that under the present administration of the railways the deficiency will soon be met, as the returns for the year ended June 30, 1895, show that the interest on cost of construction was covered all but 0·19 per cent.

A glance at the table showing the net earnings, and the interest on the capital expended upon railways, which will be found on page 723, will disclose the fact that during the period from 1870 to 1875, when the length of new lines yearly constructed was very small, being only 116 miles during the whole period of six years, or about 19⅓ miles per year, the railway profits steadily increased from 1·81 to 4·39 per cent. During 1877 and 1878, 180 miles of railway were constructed, and the profits immediately declined to 3·74 and 3·34 per cent. respectively. From 1880 to 1884 the railways were extended chiefly to centres already populous and prosperous, viz., Riverina and New England, and the central districts of Goulburn, Wellington, and Dubbo; and as these were years of remarkable prosperity, the railway profits suffered less than usual from the considerable extension, which included the construction of the expensive connecting-link joining the New South Wales railways with those of Victoria, at the River Murray. From 1885 to 1895 the extensions on the main lines were for the most part through pastoral country, such as the continuation of the western line to Bourke, the Northern line to Wallangarra, and the further extensions of the lines in the Goulburn district to the rich pastoral lands of Monaro; while several branch lines were constructed tapping important agricultural and dairy-farming districts, notably the lines Cootamundra to Gundagai, Cootamundra to Temora, Murrumburrah to Blayney, Nyngan to Cobar, Culcairn to Corowa, and Sydney to Nowra. There was also constructed an isolated line, 63¾ miles in length, from Lismore to the Tweed, which shows, however, a heavy loss on working. In some cases the value of the branch lines will not be felt until the entire system of which they form part is completed, or until they become trunk lines. For instance, in the case of the Goulburn to Cooma line, a proposal is under consideration for continuing this line to the Victorian border, with a branch line to Eden, Twofold Bay. It is expected that the Gippsland line will be extended from Bairnsdale to the border, and that by the junction of these two lines an alternative route to Melbourne will be obtained. In that case, no doubt, the eastern part of Gippsland would find its natural port at Eden. Expensive new lines result in an increase

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of the percentage of working expenses to the gross earnings, as these lines have to be kept in full working order and repair whilst actually returning in gross earnings little more than the cost of maintenance. The small returns on expensive incompleted branches further tend to diminish greatly the profits of a railway system taken as a whole; but such is the history of railway construction in all parts of the world, and New South Wales is no exception to the general rule.

The Railway Commissioners in their annual report for 1891 suggested a plan of paying for new lines from the sale of lands. They recommended that the Crown lands for a distance of 10 miles on each side of a proposed line of railway should be set aside for sale, and half the proceeds of the land sold credited to the railway capital; and where the land required for railway construction had passed into the hands of private individuals, the land-owners should combine and convey the necessary land free of cost to the Government, it being considered that the owners would be fully remunerated for the gift of the land by the enhanced value of their property caused by the establishment of direct railway communication with the other parts of the Colony. By the adoption of such a system as this it is believed that railways in light undulating country could be constructed at a moderate cost, and yield a fair return on capital from the commencement, especially what are known as "Pioneer Railways," which could be constructed at an average of about £1,750 per mile, exclusive of bridges.

The betterment system as applied to railways was first introduced in the construction of the Culcairn to Corowa Railway. No special Act was passed for the general establishment of this principle; but by a proviso in a clause of the Public Works Act the Government was empowered to apply the principle to all railways constructed subsequent to the date of the passing of the Act. In estimating the enhanced value of the land adjoining the Culcairn to Corowa railway line, the stations were assumed to be 10 miles apart, the betterment area having a 5-mile radius from each station, and the land in the vicinity of each station being considered to have an enhanced value of 25 per cent., graduating to 5 per cent. at the limit of the radius. In the case of the extension of the railway along the southern coast it is found that the enhanced value does not reach so high a percentage, owing to the facilities which exist for the transport of produce by water.

Cost of Construction.

The following table shows the cost of construction of the various branches of the railway system of the Colony at the middle of the year 1895. The average cost for the whole of the lines is calculated to be £12,396 per mile, including all charges, except for rolling-stock, machinery, and workshops—a figure which, considering the character of

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some parts of the country through which the lines have been carried, and the cost of labour, which is considerably greater in Australia than in most other countries, is by no means a high one :—

Lines opened for Traffic.	Length.	Total Cost.	Cost per Mile.
	m. ch.	£	£
Darling Harbour Branch	1 42½	360,187	235,254
Sydney to Granville	13 36¼	1,868,861	138,916
Granville to Goulburn	121 5¾	2,498,942	20,640
Goulburn to Wagga	174 79¼	1,491,202	8,521
Wagga to Wodonga	79 13¾	914,063	11,545
Culcairn to Corowa	47 39	208,012	4,380
Junee to Hay	167 35¾	951,159	5,680
Narrandera to Jerilderie	64 54¾	409,376	6,328
Granville to Penrith	21 26¼	607,944	28,504
Penrith to Bathurst	109 27	2,304,176	21,074
Bathurst to Dubbo	134 5	1,132,793	8,450
Dubbo to Bourke	225 45	1,344,569	5,961
Nyngan to Cobar	81 27¼	301,643	3,708
Wallerawang to Mudgee	85 06	980,930	11,530
Blacktown to Richmond	16 12	175,146	10,844
Goulburn to Cooma	130 40	1,403,062	10,751
Cootamundra to Gundagai	33 45½	238,763	7,113
Cootamundra to Temora	38 69	165,976	4,271
Orange to Molong	22 60	269,821	11,860
Molong to Forbes	72 69	382,955	5,256
Murrumburrah to Blayney	110 63	1,078,648	9,736
Sydney to Kiama	71 53	1,949,943	27,210
Kiama to Nowra	22 43½	360,469	15,990
Homebush to Waratah	93 03	2,624,401	28,208
Newcastle to Wallangarra	392 54	4,973,443	12,666
Werris Creek to Narrabri	96 48	565,670	5,856
Bullock Island Branch	1 45½	86,445	55,104
Morpeth Branch	3 37½	60,889	17,554
Hornsby to Milson's Point	13 27½	563,010	42,193
Lismore to Murwillumbah	63 57	862,162	13,532
Sydenham to Belmore	5 3½	163,465	32,409
Campbelltown to Camden	7 65	38,927	4,983
Kogarah to Sans Souci	4 71	12,111	2,478
Yass Tramway	2 73	28,338	9,730
Total or average	2,531 23½	31,377,501	12,396

The amount expended on rolling-stock to the period named was £4,310,740 ; for machinery, £281,516 ; on workshops, £631,864 ; and for furniture, £9,745, or £5,233,865 in all. This makes the total cost of all lines open for traffic, £36,611,366, or an average on all charges of £14,463 per mile.

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In considering in detail the figures appearing in the foregoing table it is interesting to note the comparative low cost per mile of the extensions through the pastoral country from Junee to Hay, and from Werris Creek to Narrabri, which average only £5,680 and £5,856 per mile respectively, or less than half the general average cost of other lines. The Campbelltown to Camden, the Kogarah to Sans Souci, and the Yass lines were constructed cheaply for tram-lines.

The cost of railway construction in the principal countries of the world for which figures are available, is given hereunder. The figures include the whole expense of equipping the lines for traffic, and are brought down to the latest available dates:—

Countries.	Cost per Mile open for Traffic.	Countries.	Cost per Mile open for Traffic.
	£		£
United Kingdom	47,130	Australasia :—	
France	27,375	New South Wales...	14,463
Belgium	26,616	Victoria	11,806
Germany	20,361	New Zealand	7,703
Austria-Hungary	19,395	Queensland	6,923
Canada	11,860	South Australia	7,255
United States	11,343	Tasmania.....	8,378
Cape Colony	9,009	Western Australia	3,671

Earnings and Working Expenses.

The gross amount of revenue derived from all sources connected with the Government railways in New South Wales during the year ended 30th June, 1895, was £2,878,204, being an increase of £64,663 as compared with the preceding year. The working expenses were £1,567,589, or £24,253 less than in 1894; and the net earnings were £1,310,615—an increase of £88,916 on the results obtained during the previous twelve months. The net earnings were, therefore, 45·5 per cent. of the total earnings, as against 33·3 per cent. when the Commissioners took office. The following table gives the gross earnings and the total working

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expenses, with the proportion per cent. of the expenditure to the receipts. It should be borne in mind that since the year 1887 the railway accounts have been made up to the 30th June in each year :—

Year.	Gross Earnings.	Working Expenses.	Proportion of working expenses to gross earnings.	Year.	Gross Earnings.	Working Expenses.	Proportion of working expenses to gross earnings.
	£	£	p. cent.		£	£	p. cent.
1855	9,249	5,959	64·4	1888	2,295,124	1,530,551	66·7
1860	62,269	50,427	81·0	1889	2,538,477	1,634,602	64·4
1865	166,032	108,926	65·6	1890	2,633,086	1,665,835	63·3
1870	307,142	206,003	67·1	1891	2,974,421	1,831,371	61·6
1875	614,648	296,174	48·2	1892	3,107,296	1,914,252	61·6
1880	1,161,017	647,719	55·8	1893	2,927,056	1,738,516	59·4
1885	2,174,368	1,458,153	67·1	1894	2,813,541	1,591,842	56·6
1886	2,160,070	1,492,992	69·1	1895	2,878,204	1,567,589	54·5
1887	2,208,295	1,457,760	66·0				

In the foregoing table will be found ample evidence of the economical working of the State railways under their present management, and this notwithstanding that the expenses per train mile run have increased. The explanation of this increase in the expense per train mile will be found in the fact that, although the business has increased, the management have contrived to reduce the mileage run, and have at the same time effected a thorough overhaul of the property in their hands. The distribution of expenses is shown below :—

Head of Expenditure.	1875.	1880.	1885.	1890.	1894.	1895.
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Maintenance of way.....	10·85	11·40	15·71	15·39	14·03	12·63
Locomotive power	17·40	16·33	15·62	16·73	16·99	15·63
Repairs—carriages, waggons, etc.	3·20	2·47	2·65	4·59	4·26	4·13
Traffic charges	14·38	15·83	14·92	15·07	15.33	13·96
Compensation	0·30	0·50	0·30	0·97	0·18	1·05
General expenses	2·15	1·46	3·52	2·16	2·50	2·14
Total	48·28	47·99	52·72	54·91	53·29	49·54

The following table gives the percentage of earnings from the two sources of railway revenue. It will be observed that in the year 1860 the earnings from passenger traffic largely exceeded those from goods,

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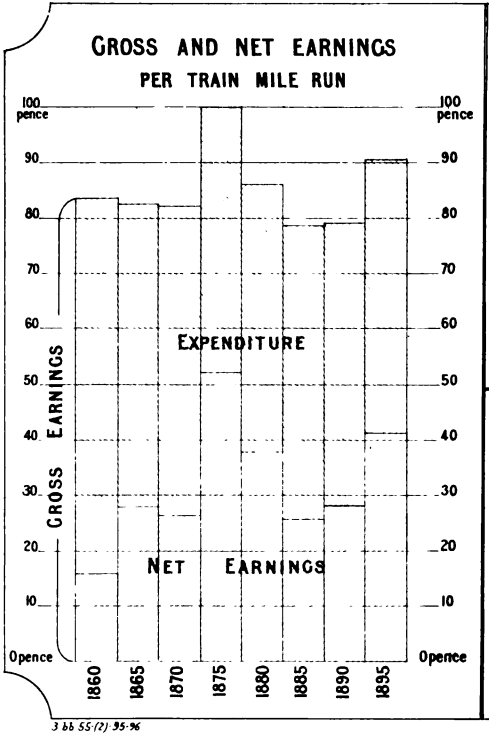

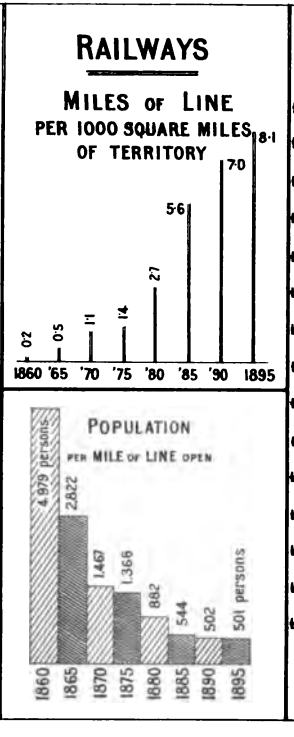

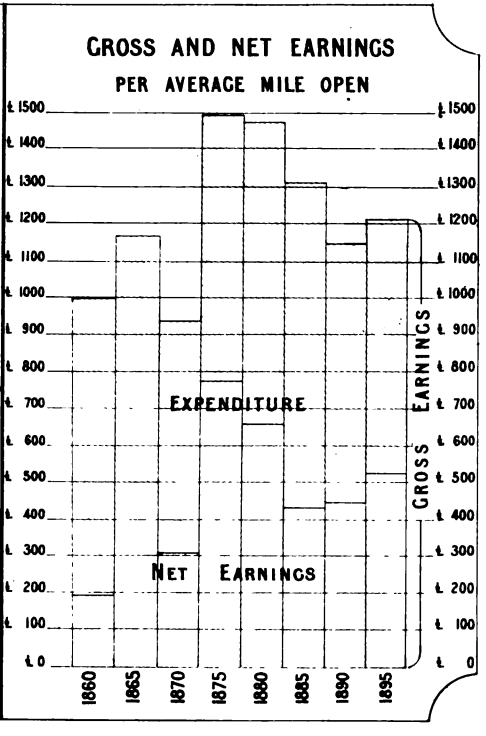

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but after that year the proportion derived from that source declined, reaching the minimum in 1875. This falling off was almost entirely due to the considerable extension of the main lines through pastoral country, thinly populated, but well stocked with sheep and cattle, and consequently furnishing the railway with large quantities of produce for carriage to the seaboard. From 1880 to 1889, however, the percentage of receipts from passengers steadily advanced, the proportion in the year last named being as high as 40·4 per cent. of the total revenue. For the year ended 30th June, 1895, the passenger traffic contributed but 35·5 per cent. of the total railway earnings :—

Year.	Percentage of		Year.	Percentage of	
	Passenger Earnings to Total.	Goods Earnings to Total.		Passenger Earnings to Total.	Goods Earnings to Total.
1860	73·0	27·0	1888	40·1	59·9
1865	56·0	44·0	1889	40·4	59·6
1870	38·4	61·6	1890	40·2	59·8
1875	33·5	66·5	1891	39·6	60·4
1880	33·6	66·4	1892	38·3	61·7
1885	38·2	61·8	1893	38·1	61·9
1886	39·3	60·7	1894	37·2	62·8
1887	38·5	61·5	1895	35·5	64·5

The net revenue for the year which expired on the 30th June, 1895, was £1,310,615, while the total amount of capital expended on lines in operation to the same period was £36,611,366. The net return on the capital expended equalled 3·6 per cent., which is the most satisfactory return obtained since 1884, and only 0·19 per cent. below the average interest payable on the public debt. The following table shows the net earnings and the interest returned on the total capital expended on railways, including the cost of both construction and equipment, for the year 1855 and subsequent periods :—

Year.	Net Earnings.	Interest on Capital.	Year.	Net Earnings.	Interest on Capital.
	£	per cent.		£	per cent.
1855	3,290	0·63	1888	764,573	2·85
1860	11,842	0·63	1889	903,875	3·14
1865	57,106	2·07	1890	967,251	3·17
1870	101,139	1·81	1891	1,143,050	3·59
1875	318,474	4·39	1892	1,193,044	3·58
1880	513,298	4·35	1893	1,188,540	3·48
1885	716,215	3·37	1894	1,221,699	3·46
1886	667,078	2·90	1895	1,310,615	3·60
1887	750,535	2·96			

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Two important facts which demonstrate the financial position of the railways and the character of the management are the earnings per train mile and per average mile open. Although the returns now being realised cannot be compared with those of 1875, when the net earnings per train mile fell little short of 52d., and per mile open £775, the present earnings are in every way encouraging. Under the control of the Commissioners the net return per train mile has increased from 27·4d. to 41·4d., or 51·1 per cent.; while per mile of line open for traffic the advance has been from £374 to close on £521, or 39·3 per cent. The following table gives details of the net earnings since 1860 :—

Year.	Net Earnings per—		Year.	Net Earnings per—	
	Train Mile Run.	Average Mile Open.		Train Mile Run.	Average Mile Open.
	d.	£		d.	£
1860	15·9	189·5	1888	27·4	374·0
1865	28·3	399·3	1889	28·4	424·7
1870	26·9	307·4	1890	29·0	444·3
1875	51·9	774·8	1891	32·6	523·8
1880	38·0	653·1	1892	34·3	546·6
1885	25·9	430·6	1893	38·0	513·2
1886	24·7	372·6	1894	40·9	503·3
1887	27·8	387·7	1895	41·4	520·9

Passenger Traffic.

The number of journeys made by each person in the Colony now averages 15·8 per annum, as against 7·5 in 1880 and 1·6 in 1870. The increase has been exceedingly rapid as well as fairly uniform, as will be seen from the following table :—

Year.	Number of Journeys.	Year.	Number of Journeys.
1855	0·4	1888	14·9
1860	1·6	1889	15·3
1865	1·9	1890	15·8
1870	1·6	1891	17·0
1875	2·3	1892	17·1
1880	7·5	1893	16·6
1885	14·6	1894	15·7
1886	15·4	1895	15·8
1887	14·4		

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The figures just given include journeys of season-ticket holders; excluding this traffic, the number of journeys per head would be about 10·1, a number larger than the average of any of the adjacent Colonies, Victoria excepted. The average number of journeys made by the inhabitants of the United Kingdom is 23·3—a figure which largely exceeds that of any other population. With this exception, railway travelling is more common in Victoria, South Australia, and New South Wales than in any other country. The averages of some of the more important places are:—Belgium, 15·2; France, 8·3; Germany, 9·9; United States, 10·0; Austria-Hungary, 2·9; Russia, 0·5; South Australia, 14·9; Queensland, 4·5; Western Australia, 12·5; New Zealand, 5·7; and Tasmania, 3·3. For Victoria the average would appear to be 34·1; but owing to the way in which season ticket-holders' journeys are reckoned in that Colony, this figure cannot be compared with those just given. The total number of journeys made by passengers, including season ticket-holders; the revenue received from the passenger traffic, and also the average receipts per journey, are shown in the next table, which should be read in conjunction with that just given:—

Year.	Passenger journeys.	Receipts from Passenger Traffic.	Average Receipts per journey.
	No.	£	d.
1855	98,846	9,093	22·08
1860	551,044	45,428	19·79
1865	751,587	92,984	29·69
1870	776,707	117,854	36·42
1875	1,288,225	205,941	38·37
1880	5,440,138	390,149	17·21
1885	13,506,346	830,904	14·76
1886	14,881,604	849,253	13·70
1887	14,451,303	850,499	14·12
1888	15,174,115	918,975	14·53
1889	16,086,223	1,025,601	15·30
1890	17,071,945	1,059,791	14·90
1891	19,037,760	1,177,037	14·84
1892	19,918,916	1,189,231	14·33
1893	19,932,703	1,115,042	13·43
1894	19,265,732	1,047,029	13·04
1895	19,725,418	1,022,901	12·45

The traffic on the suburban lines, which comprise only distances within 20 miles of Sydney and Newcastle, Liverpool and Morpeth included, has enormously increased of late years. In the following table a comparison

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is instituted between the traffic for the years ended 30th June, 1891, 1894, and 1895:—

Suburban Traffic.	1891.	1894.	1895.
Number of ordinary passengers	9,384,425	10,195,359	10,192,545
,, workmen's journeys	2,422,644	2,452,680	2,816,016
,, season ticket holders' journeys	4,127,192	4,024,504	4,326,542
Total passenger journeys	15,934,261	16,672,543	17,335,103
Number of miles travelled	89,270,546	94,552,116	98,432,950
Average mileage per passenger	5·61	5·67	5·68
Amount received from passengers	£252,271	£242,913	£244,926
Average receipts per mile, per passenger	0·68d.	0·62d.	0·60d.

The average receipts from passenger traffic per head of population advanced very rapidly until 1891, when the amount stood at 20s. 11·8d., against 10s. 8·5d. in 1880, and 4s. 9·7d. in 1870. This was not due so much to the increased distance travelled by passengers as to the fact that the railway mileage increased at a greater rate than the population, enabling the public to indulge in a larger measure of railway travelling, in accordance with the well-established rule that the more facilities for travelling are extended, the greater will be the traffic. Since 1891 the average has lessened and now stands at 16s. 4·2d. In this connection it may be interesting to note that the fares charged on the suburban lines, over which the majority of passengers travel, are very much less for both classes of travellers than the English rates, although the cost of working is very much higher. The receipts from passenger traffic per head of the population will be found in the following figures:—

Year	Amount per head.	Year.	Amount per head.
	s. d.		s. d.
1860	2 7·8	1888	18 0·2
1865	4 7·8	1889	19 6·2
1870	4 9·7	1890	19 7·1
1875	7 10·2	1891	20 11·8
1880	10 8·5	1892	20 4·9
1885	17 11·1	1893	18 7·4
1886	17 6·2	1894	17 1·4
1887	16 11·1	1895	16 4·2

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Goods Traffic.

The weight of goods carried per head of population in New South Wales compares favourably with that of many countries where railways have long been established. The average tonnage for 1860 and subsequent periods was :—

Year.	Tons.	Year.	Tons.
1860	0·2	1888	3·3
1865	1·2	1889	3·3
1870	1·6	1890	3·5
1875	2·2	1891	3·4
1880	2·4	1892	3·7
1885	3·5	1893	3·2
1886	3·3	1894	2·9
1887	3·3	1895	3·3

The largest amount of tonnage per inhabitant is in the United States and in Scotland, where it averages 12·1 and 9·8 respectively; the lowest European country is Russia, with only 0·7 tons per head. The relative position of New South Wales will be seen from the next table, which shows the tonnage of merchandise carried per head of population in the principal countries of the world :—

	Tons.		Tons.
United States	12·1	Australasia—	
Scotland	9·8	New South Wales	3·3
England and Wales	9·2	Victoria	2·1
United Kingdom	8·3	Queensland	1·9
Belgium	7·4	South Australia	2·9
Germany	4·7	Western Australia	3·1
Canada	4·4	Tasmania	1·1
Austria-Hungary	2·6	New Zealand	3·1
France	2·5		
Ireland	1·0		
Russia	0·7		

The following figures, which extend as far back as the first opening of the lines, show how greatly the goods traffic has expanded, especially

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in recent years. It is very satisfactory to note that although all the main trunk lines have been constructed for several years, the volume of goods carried is still increasing faster than the population :—

Year.	Tonnage of Goods.	Earnings.	Year.	Tonnage of Goods.	Earnings.
		£			£
1855	140	156	1888	3,399,772	1,376,149
1860	55,394	16,841	1889	3,485,839	1,512,876
1865	416,707	73,048	1890	3,788,950	1,573,295
1870	766,523	189,288	1891	3,802,849	1,797,384
1875	1,171,354	408,707	1892	4,296,713	1,918,065
1880	1,712,971	770,868	1893	3,773,843	1,812,014
1885	3,273,004	1,343,464	1894	3,493,919	1,766,512
1886	3,218,582	1,310,817	1895	4,075,093	1,855,303
1887	3,339,253	1,357,796			

It is unfortunately impossible to subdivide the tonnage of goods just given for 1895 into anything approaching a general classification, but this can be done for the year which closed with December, 1894. In the statement here given, which relates to the year in question, will be found particulars of the tonnage under eight broad classes, the average distance goods of each class were carried, and the average earnings per ton per mile; this last figure, however, does not include the terminal charges, which would probably increase the revenue per ton per mile by about ·20d., or from 1·58d. to 1·78d. The "Miscellaneous and A class" comprises timber, lime, manures, fruit, vegetables, hides, tobacco leaf, bricks, gravel, drain-pipes, and traffic of a similar nature.

Description of Traffic.	Tons carried.	Average number of miles each ton of traffic is carried.	Earnings per ton per mile.
Coal and shale	2,440,389	14·41	0·72d.
Firewood	188,416	27·36	0·85d.
Grain and flour	241,669	150·00	0·61d.
Hay, straw, and chaff	83,819	163·35	0·43d.
Miscellaneous and A class	280,369	64·00	0·84d.
Wool	124,102	281·08	2·44d.
Live stock	153,082	244·84	1·94d.
General merchandise and other traffic not classified	399,249	141·59	2·57d.
Total or average	3,911,095	60·62	1·58d.

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The statement which is given below shows the receipts for carrying goods one mile along the lines of the Colony. The information reaches back to 1872, when the charge was 3·6d., while after an interval of twenty-two years it had fallen to 1·8d. The decrease, however, is to some extent more apparent than real, inasmuch as it represents a more extensive development of the mineral trade than of the carriage of general merchandise; but when due allowance has been made on this score, it will be found that the benefit to the general producer and consumer has been very substantial:—

1872	3·6d.	1882	2·1d.
1873	3·3d.	1883	2·0d.
1874	3·0d.	1884	1·9d.
1875	3·1d.	1885	1·9d.
1876	2·8d.	1886	1·8d.
1877	2·7d.	1887	1·8d.
1878	2·4d.	1891	1·9d.
1879	2·3d.	1892	1·8d.
1880	2·3d.	1893	1·8d.
1881	2·3d.	1894	1·8d.

The figures just given should not be too strongly relied upon in comparing one year with another; but they may safely be taken as indicating generally the lessened cost of carriage to persons forwarding goods by rail. The reduction is most noticeable in regard to agricultural produce and live stock.

During the year ended 30th June, 1895, some important reductions were made in the rates for the conveyance of goods and live stock. The rates for cattle were lowered to the scale of charges applicable to sheep, being practically a reduction of 20 per cent. In March a general revision of the goods classification was made, by which many articles were placed in lower classes. The rates for coal in the Newcastle district, and from the western mines to Sydney and district, were also slightly reduced. By a revision of the wool tariff, the anomaly of charging higher rates from stations nearer to Sydney and Newcastle than from others at longer distances on the same line, but which are affected by the interior river and other competition, was entirely removed.

The revenue from goods traffic per inhabitant rose rapidly from the opening of the lines until the year 1883, when it stood at 30s. 4d., at which figure it remained in 1884. The unfavourable seasons experienced during the subsequent years greatly affected the traffic, and the revenue in 1888 had fallen to 27s. per inhabitant. For a number of years afterwards there was a steady increase, and in 1892 the amount stood at 32s. 11d.—the highest figure yet attained; in 1894, however, this had decreased to 28s. 10d., but in 1895 the amount rose to 29s. 7d.

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This is a very satisfactory result to be achieved, notwithstanding a general reduction in the freights :—

Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
1860	0 0 11·8	1888	1 6 11·7
1865	0 3 7·8	1889	1 8 9·4
1870	0 7 8·7	1890	1 9 1·0
1875	0 13 11·8	1891	1 12 0·5
1880	1 1 1·9	1892	1 12 11·0
1885	1 8 11·7	1893	1 10 3·1
1886	1 7 0·5	1894	1 8 10·6
1887	1 7 0·3	1895	1 9 7·8

On the 30th June, 1895, the length of line open for traffic was 2,531 miles, as against 2,351 miles on the 30th June, 1893. The lines opened during the two years were :—Cootamundra to Temora, 39 miles, opened on the 1st September, 1893 ; Molong to Forbes, 73 miles, opened on the 18th December, 1893 ; Lismore to Mullumbimby, 38¾ miles, opened on the 15th May, 1894 ; Mullumbimby to Murwillumbah, 25 miles, opened on the 24th December, 1894 ; and Sydenham to Belmore, 5 miles, opened on the 1st February, 1895. The only line under construction in June, 1895, was one of the "Pioneer" class, from Narrabri to Moree, a distance of 63 miles. Lines of a similar character, from Parkes to Condobolin, a distance of 60½ miles, and from Jerilderie to Berrigan, 23 miles, will shortly be commenced, Parliament having approved of their construction.

The rolling stock of the New South Wales railways, on the 30th June, 1895, consisted of 523 engines, 1,044 passenger stock, and 10,557 goods vehicles, making a total of 12,124 stock, and showing an increase of one locomotive and four goods vehicles, and a decrease of three passenger stock, on the figures for the previous year. The number of engine miles run was 10,444,441, while the train miles numbered only 7,594,281.

The cost of the lines open for traffic on the 30th June, 1895, as already stated, was £36,611,366. Of this amount, £903,565 has been provided out of the Consolidated Revenue of the Colony, and debentures to the amount of £1,266,146 have been finally paid off, leaving a balance of £34,441,655 which has been raised by the issue of debentures and other stock. The net revenue, after paying working expenses, is

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£1,310,615, which gives a return of 3·6 per cent. upon the total capital expenditure on lines open for traffic, and 3·83 per cent. upon the capital on which the country has to pay interest. The so-called reduction of the railway debt is purely imaginary, seeing that the bulk of the debentures retired were renewed out of fresh loans, and the sum paid from revenue to redeem loans was not furnished by railway profits. The proper comparison between railway earnings and interest charged is obtained from the net earnings of railways on cost of construction, and the actual interest paid by the State on outstanding loans. The net earnings of the railways represent 3·6 per cent. on the cost of construction; but as the average price obtained for the loans of the Colony was 96·18 per £100 of stock, the actual earnings of the railways cannot be taken at more than 3·46 per cent., while the interest charged on outstanding loans is 3·79 per cent.

During the year ended June, 1895, the wages paid by the Railway Department amounted to £959,920 as against £987,925 in the previous year. Of the former sum, the Maintenance Branch took £278,072, and the Locomotive Branch £452,555, while the Traffic Branch absorbed £229,293. Additions and improvements to stations, buildings, siding accommodation, etc., and rolling stock during the year cost £66,140, which was charged to capital account.

Compensation for personal injury was paid during the twelve months to the amount of £31,874, and for damage to and loss of goods, £1,358. Of the former sum, £30,000 represents claims in connection with the lamentable accident at Redfern Station in October, 1894, to which further reference is made in this chapter. The estimated total amount of compensation involved by that accident is about £40,000, of which £37,000 had been paid up to the end of September, 1895.

The cost of fuel is, naturally, a large item in the railway accounts. For the last working year the expenditure on coal, coke, and wood totalled £69,169. The coal consumed on the locomotives amounted to 255,486 tons, or an average of ·67 cwt. per train mile.

There were altogether 9,229 persons employed on the railways of the Colony on the 30th June, 1895, of which number 1,241 comprised the salaried staff, and 7,988 were on wages. For the previous year the total number was 9,135, of whom 1,272 were on salary and 7,863 on wages.

The management of the State railways of New South Wales was in the hands of a single Commissioner, under the Secretary for Public Works, up to the month of October, 1888. At that date the service was transferred to the department of the Colonial Treasurer, and the actual administration of the railways was entrusted to three Commissioners, to whom were given very extensive powers, amounting in fact to almost independent control. The change was made with the view of securing economic management of the lines, free from political interference.

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Private Railway Lines.

In New South Wales the established policy has hitherto been to keep the railways under State management and control, and at the present time there are only four private lines in operation, with the exception of short lines to connect coal-mines with the main railways, etc. The Parliament granted permission to a company to construct a line from Deniliquin, in the centre of the Riverina district, to Moama, on the Murray, where it meets the railway system of Victoria. A considerable proportion of the wool and other produce of Riverina reaches the Melbourne market by this route. The line is 45 miles in length, and was constructed under a special Act of Parliament, assented to on the 3rd March, 1874. The land required was granted by the New South Wales Government, right being reserved for the purchase of the line at any time after twenty-one years from the passing of the Act. The total capital expended is £162,672, £40,000 of which was raised by debentures, and there is a reserve fund of £13,977. The dividends formerly paid averaged 10 per cent., but in August, 1895, the rate was 5 per cent. During the year 1888 a line, 35 miles 54 chains in length, was laid down from the Barrier silver mines, Silverton, and Broken Hill to the South Australian border. The total capital expended is £317,270, of which £80,000 was raised by debentures, and there is a reserve fund of £15,000. The line since its inception has had large support. In 1891 the large dividend of 70 per cent. was declared; but in June, 1892, owing to the stoppage of work at the mines the dividend declined to 50 per cent.; and in the same month of 1895 the rate was 30 per cent. A short line connects Clyde with the Rosehill Racecourse, and another joins Liverpool with the Warwick Farm Racecourse. The following table shows the operations of these lines during the year 1894:—

Name.	Date of Opening.	Line.		Total Capital Expended.	Reserve Fund.	Debentures Outstanding.	Passengers Carried.	Goods Carried.	Train Miles Run.
		Length.	Gauge.						
		m. ch.	ft. in.	£	£	£	No.	Tons.	No.
Deniliquin and Moama	4 July, 1876	45 0	5 3	162,672	13,977	38,000	13,361	25,355	60,528
Silverton	11 Jan., 1888	35 54	3 6	317,270	15,000	Nil.	35,929	445,457	143,337
Clyde to Rosehill ..	27 Jan., 1888	3 0	4 8½	48,000	Nil.	Nil.	43,926	1,300	322
Warwick Farm ..	18 June, 1889	0 60	4 8½	5,700	..	..	22,755	Nil.	74

The Deniliquin and Moama Company possesses 4 locomotives, 6 passenger carriages, and 63 goods carriages and vans; the Silverton

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Company has 15 locomotives, 17 passenger carriages, and 600 goods vehicles. On the Rosehill and Warwick Farm lines Government rolling-stock is used.

Authority was obtained during 1893 for the construction of two private lines, namely, from Menindie to Broken Hill, in the Western district, and from Rosehill to Dural (Simpson's), in the Parramatta district. The latter of these proposed lines is under construction.

Railway Accidents.

The railways of the Colony have been as free from accidents of a serious character as the lines of most other countries. In order to obtain a common basis of comparison it is usual to find the proportion which the number of persons killed or injured bears to the total passengers carried. There is, however, no necessary connection between the two, for it is obvious that accidents may occur on lines chiefly devoted to goods traffic, and a more reasonable basis would be the accidents to passengers only compared with the number of passengers carried. The data from which such a comparison could be made are wanting for some countries; as far as the figures can be given, however, they are shown in the following table, which exhibits the number of passengers killed and injured per million persons carried. The figures are calculated over a series of years and brought down to the latest possible dates :—

Countries.	Average per million passengers carried.		Countries.	Average per million passengers carried.	
	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.
Germany	0·1	0·4	Russia	0·7	2·2
Austria-Hungary	0·1	0·9	United Kingdom	0·2	1·8
Belgium	0·1	1·2	Portugal	0·3	3·3
Sweden	0·1	0·2	Spain	0·7	3·2
France	0·2	1·1	Canada	0·9	3·0
Italy	0·2	1·9	New South Wales	0·6	2·5
Norway	0·1	0·1	Victoria	0·1	2·9
Holland	0·1	0·3	South Australia	0·2	0·6
Switzerland	0·5	1·7	New Zealand	0·7	2·3

The above mode of comparison is not, however, a perfect one, as the question of the distance travelled by each passenger is an important

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element of the risk run, and is omitted from consideration. If this were made a factor of the comparative statement, it would probably be found that the risk of each traveller by rail would show less variation in the different countries than would seem to be the case from the figures just given.

The persons meeting with accidents on railway lines may be grouped under three heads—passengers, servants of the railways, and trespassers; and the accidents themselves may be classified into those arising from causes beyond the control of the person injured, and those due to misconduct or want of caution. Adopting these classifications, the accidents on the New South Wales Railways during the year ended June 30, 1895, were as follow :—

Accidents arising.	Passengers.		Railway Employés		Trespassers, etc.		Total.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
From causes beyond their control	11	37	3	4	...	...	14	41
Through misconduct or want of caution...	5	40	14	66	9	13	28	119
Total.....	16	77	17	70	9	13	42	160

Nearly one-third of the total loss of life recorded was consequent upon a collision which occurred, on the 31st October, 1894, at Redfern station, Sydney, between an incoming suburban passenger train and a passenger train which steamed out from the platform, although the starting signal was at "danger." Through this collision, injury was suffered by 43 persons, of whom 13, namely, 11 passengers and 2 railway employés, subsequently died. Inquiries which were instituted showed that all the appliances in use for securing the safety of the travelling public in a crowded station had been rendered valueless by the momentary failure of the human agents employed. Of the remaining fatal cases, 9 were trespassers, or persons who had no business to be on the railway at all; 4 were passengers who left trains which were in motion; and 6 were employés who were run over. In 34 cases the injuries suffered by passengers and railway employés were of a slight character.

The returns of the railways of the United Kingdom show that during the year 1894 the number of persons killed was 1,115, or 1·2 per million passengers; and of persons injured, 4,120, or 4·5 per million passengers carried. The passengers killed and injured numbered 117 and 1,168 respectively; 479 railway employés were killed, and 2,711 were injured; there were 112 cases of suicide; and the other persons who were killed and injured were trespassers and persons who were crossing the lines.

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In the following statement particulars regarding accidents on the lines of the Colony are given for ten years :—

Year.	Passengers.		Railway Employés.		Trespassers, etc.		Total.	
	Killed.	Injured	Killed.	Injured	Killed.	Injured	Killed.	Injured
1885	7	44	20	25	14	4	41	73
1886	3	40	12	18	15	5	30	63
1887	10	90	16	17	12	5	38	112
1888–89	3	38	16	27	12	9	31	74
1889–90	6	53	22	103	27	20	55	176
1890–91	7	42	32	114	21	14	60	170
1891–92	17	58	26	163	7	7	50	228
1892–93	7	47	10	87	11	5	28	139
1893–94	8	33	7	93	13	18	28	144
1894–95	16	77	17	70	9	13	42	160
Total	84	522	178	717	141	100	403	1,389

TRAMWAY AND OMNIBUS TRAFFIC.

Within the Metropolis of Sydney the public traffic, with the exception of the tramway system, is controlled by four Transit Commissioners, comprising the Mayor of Sydney, the Inspector-General of Police, a representative elected by the Aldermen of Suburban Municipalities, and one by the holders of licenses under the Commissioners. The tramways, like the railways, are the property of the Government, and are under the control of the Commissioners for Railways. There were in the year ended June, 1895, five distinct systems of tramways in operation, consisting of the Metropolitan and the Ashfield to Enfield lines measuring together 42 miles; the North Sydney cable tramway, 2 miles; the North Sydney (Military Road) electric tramway, 2 miles; the King-street to Ocean-street cable tramway, 2½ miles; and the New castle to Plattsburg Tramway (including Merewether and Tighe's Hill sections), 12 miles; giving a total of about 61 miles of lines in use The Campbelltown and Camden line, 7½ miles, and the Kogarah and Sandringham line, 5 miles, formerly classed as tramways, are now included under the head of railways.

The metropolitan tramways may fairly be regarded as street railways, and they are worked by locomotives of a special construction. A cable tramway was inaugurated at North Sydney some years ago; and a line of a similar class, extending from the heart of Sydney to the suburb of Woollahra, *via* William-street, was completed in 1894, and

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opened on the 19th September in that year. The electric system was tried on a short line joining the Waverley and Randwick tram-lines, but proved less economical than steam power, and accordingly was abandoned in April, 1892, in favour of steam. The electric plant has been transferred to a tramway constructed along the Military Road, North Sydney, and opened in September, 1893.

The net return on tramway capital has varied greatly from year to year. The favourable results of the first four years encouraged the belief that the metropolitan tramways would prove a source of increase to the general revenue of the Colony; but these anticipations were not realised during the next seven years, and it was not until 1890 that the net earnings exceeded the rate of interest payable on the money borrowed for the construction of these works. The following table gives some interesting particulars respecting the metropolitan tramways, exclusive of the King-street to Ocean-street cable tramway and the North Sydney cable and electric tramways. In the year 1879 the tramways were open for only three and a half months, and for part of that time were worked by horse power. The accounts since 1887, like those relating to the railways, have been made up to the 30th June in each year:—

Year.	Length of Line.	Car Mileage.	Total Earnings.	Working Expenses.	Earnings per Car Mile.	Working cost per Car Mile.	Proportion of working cost to gross earnings.	Net Earnings.	Capital invested on Lines open.	Interest on Capital.
	miles.		£	£	d.	d.	p. cent.	£	£	per cent.
1879	1½	13,270	4,416	2,278	79·87	41·19	51·59	2,138	22,269	33·00
1880	4	84,074	18,980	13,444	54·18	38·38	70·83	5,536	60,218	12·34
1881	9½	296,906	62,549	52,107	50·56	42·12	83·31	10,442	169,450	6·16
1882	22	670,649	126,202	103,136	45·16	36·91	81·72	23,066	412,561	6·80
1883	25	1,076,096	190,699	178,877	42·53	39·89	93·80	11,822	544,105	2·22
1884	27½	1,242,491	219,942	215,167	42·48	41·56	97·83	4,775	643,111	0·76
1885	27½	1,220,500	223,340	207,995	43·91	40·90	93·13	15,345	708,109	2·17
1886	27½	1,222,943	226,367	201,737	44·42	39·59	89·12	24,630	742,113	3·32
1887	29½	1,220,026	214,125	201,468	42·12	39·63	94·08	12,657	731,582	1·76
1888	29½	1,246,543	221,060	204,227	42·56	39·32	92·38	16,833	742,555	2·27
1889	29½	1,338,386	225,833	206,092	40·49	36·95	91·25	19,741	771,255	2·56
1890	30½	1,474,646	249,508	207,517	40·60	36·46	83·17	41,991	790,555	5·31
1891	33½	1,553,048	270,365	221,505	41·78	34·23	81·92	48,860	857,455	5·74
1892	37	1,613,443	279,321	229,145	41·55	34·09	82·04	50,176	932,907	5·54
1893	38	1,681,232	271,041	214,824	38·69	30·67	79·26	56,217	947,775	5·94
1894	40¼	1,737,846	250,809	206,554	34·64	28·53	82·35	44,255	954,035	4·64
1895	40¼	1,740,235	230,583	186,081	31·80	25·66	80·70	44,502	962,037	4·62

The fares paid on the tramways average about 1d. per mile, the lines being divided into sections of about 1 and 2 miles. The number of persons using the tram-cars has not been ascertained with any exactness, as the tickets collected give only a partial indication of the number travelling. It is believed that the fares paid by passengers average 3d. a journey, so that the number of journeys in the year ended 30th June, 1895, reached the enormous total of 18,446,640, or about 44

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for every person living in the metropolitan area. Cash fares in lieu of tickets are allowed, although this system does not largely prevail, as an extra fee is charged when money is tendered.

The following table shows the total and average cost of the various sections of the metropolitan steam tramways open on the 30th June, 1895:—

Section.	Length.		Total Cost.	Cost per mile.
	ms.	chs.	£	£
Railway Station to Bridge-street	1	59	95,591	55,016
Liverpool-street to Randwick and Coogee	5	9	113,436	22,188
Darlinghurst Junction to Waverley and Woollahra	4	40	60,300	13,400
Waverley to Bondi Beach	2	8	38,197	18,189
Waverley to Randwick	1	30	11,182	6,390
Crown-street Junction to Cleveland-street	0	69	16,069	18,631
Railway Station to Glebe and Forest Lodge	2	25	40,050	17,319
Newtown and Parramatta-street Junction to Dulwich Hill	4	7	63,299	15,486
Forest Lodge Junction to Leichhardt, Five Dock, and Abbotsford	6	57	61,409	9,148
Railway Station Junction to Botany	6	66	90,787	13,302
Forest Lodge to Gladstone Park, Balmain	2	66	28,470	10,078
Newtown Bridge to St. Peters	0	63	13,199	16,761
Redfern to Moore Park	1	6	18,558	17,263
Cost of construction	40	25	650,547	16,138
Equipment:—				
Tramway workshops £55,261				
Rolling stock 241,775				
Machinery 12,342				
Furniture 2,113				
	.....		311,491	.....
Total or average	40	25	962,038	23,864

The following extensions were opened for traffic during the year ended 30th June, 1894:—Bondi Aquarium to Bondi Beach, 45 chains, double track; Five Dock to Abbotsford, 1 mile 25 chains, single track; Ridge-street, North Sydney, to Spit Road (electric), 2 miles 11 chains, single track; and the extension of the North Shore cable line from the power-house to Lane Cove Road, 60 chains. With the exception of the duplication of the Waverley line from Bondi Junction to Charing Cross, a distance of 54½ chains, no additional mileage was added to the city and suburban steam tramways during the year ended 30th June, 1895; but the cable line from the foot of King-street to Ocean-street, Woollahra, was opened for traffic.

The cost of construction and equipment of the Ashfield to Enfield line, which was opened on 23rd September, 1891, was £15,967. For

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the year ended June, 1895, the revenue amounted to £972, and the working expenses to £1,999, showing a loss of £1,027 in connection with actual working, or of £1,586 if the interest on capital be taken into consideration. The number of passenger fares collected was 233,320.

The revenue of the North Sydney cable line was £10,552, and the expenses £8,232. The net profit, therefore, was £2,320, or 2·02 per cent. upon £114,628, the total cost of the line and its equipment. The number of passenger fares collected was 2,534,890.

The North Shore electric tramway yielded a revenue of £1,856; but the working expenditure totalled £2,123, being £267 in excess of the receipts. The total loss on the working of the line was £1,201. The number of passenger fares collected was 445,491.

On the King-street to Ocean-street cable tramway the receipts amounted to £18,895, and the working expenses were £16,683, leaving a net profit of £2,212, or 1·64 per cent. upon £171,905, the total cost of the line and its equipment. The number of passenger fares collected was 4,294,662.

The Newcastle to Plattsburg tramway line and contingent sections showed a gross revenue of £19,458, while the working expenses totalled £15,875, so that the profit for the year came to £3,583. The cost of construction and equipment was £137,284, so that the net return was 2·61 per cent. upon the capital invested, as against 2·09 per cent. in the previous year. The number of passenger fares collected was 4,669,789.

In the following table are given the revenue and expenditure on and the capital invested in all State tramways since their inception in 1879. The Camden to Campbelltown tramway was placed among the railways during 1888, and the Kogarah-Sans Souci line was similarly dealt with in 1889 :—

Year.	Total Length of Lines.	Capital Expended.			Value of Fares received.	Total Earnings.	Expenditure for Working Expenses.	Net Earnings over Working Expenses.
		On Lines open for Traffic.	On Extensions not opened.	Total.				
	Miles.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1879	1½	22,061	.....	22,061	4,416	4,416	2,278	2,138
1880	4½	60,218	1,683	61,901	18,968	18,980	13,444	5,536
1881	11½	181,659	38,659	220,318	61,921	62,549	52,107	10,442
1882	29½	447,939	10,206	458,145	127,124	128,354	120,181	8,173
1883	32½	579,439	104,686	648,125	190,269	193,929	183,218	10,711
1884	35	683,179	106,320	789,499	218,885	223,454	215,086	8,368
1885	35	748,506	142,217	890,723	220,332	227,144	207,898	19,246
1886	36½	854,260	131,342	985,602	230,374	234,143	207,635	26,508
1887	51	917,995	105,640	1,023,635	225,764	229,772	211,722	18,050
1888	43½	907,987	106,757	1,014,664	241,838	241,838	217,629	24,209
1889	38½	909,595	107,333	1,016,928	243,563	243,563	221,835	21,728
1890	39½	933,614	87,194	1,020,808	262,835	268,962	224,073	44,889
1891	42½	1,004,212	35,866	1,040,078	292,499	292,850	239,679	53,171
1892	48	1,099,659	28,946	1,128,605	304,899	305,090	248,591	56,499
1893	49	1,118,471	94,590	1,213,061	295,352	295,367	233,808	61,559
1894	58½	1,248,986	79,923	1,328,909	278,185	278,194	229,283	48,911
1895	61	1,428,518	.....	1,428,518	282,316	282,316	230,993	51,323

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During the year ended June, 1895, the total amount of wages paid by the Tramway Department was £165,181, as against £161,635 in the previous year, and £157,652 in 1893. Of the sum of £165,181, £24,413 was paid to the Maintenance Branch, £98,230 to the Locomotive Branch, and £42,538 to the Traffic Branch.

The number of men employed was 1,292, as against 1,216 in 1894 and 1,248 in the previous year. The salaried staff was 39, and 1,253 were on wages. Taking railways and tramways together, the number of persons employed was 10,521, of whom 1,280 were on the salaried staff, and 9,241 were on wages. To the latter the sum of £1,125,101 was paid as wages during the year, being £959,920 for services on the railways, and £165,181 for the performance of work on the tramways. The payments for wages in 1894 were:—railways, £987,925; tramways, £161,635; total, £1,149,560. In the preceding year the wages were:—railways, £1,092,682; tramways, £157,652; total, £1,250,334. While since June, 1893, there has been a diminution in the expenditure on wages to the extent of £125,233, the rates of pay have not been reduced; but in consequence of a continued contraction of traffic during the year ended June, 1894, the Commissioners for Railways decided, in preference to reducing the staff to its smallest limits, to extend to other grades of the service a plan which had already been adopted for the workshops, namely, that of placing the men on short time. A considerable number of the staff were, therefore, kept at work for only five or five and a half days per week for a certain time. The men employed in the workshops were placed on three-quarter time for nearly three months, after which the shops were again opened for five days per week. Towards the close of the last railway year, the workmen in the carriage, waggon and paint shops, and the boiler-makers and mechanics in the various steamsheds, resumed full time; and the remainder of the mechanical staff were then working five and a half instead of five days per week. The average number of working days for the workshop staff for the year ended June, 1895, was 275, as against 254 for the previous year; and the receipts per man on the wages staff—railway and tramways—averaged £121 15s. for the twelve months.

Any statement as to the number of persons injured on the tramways of the city compared with the total number of persons carried, must be taken as approximate, as the latter is not definitely known. A record of the accidents which occurred during the year ended 30th June, 1895, shows them to have been 26 in number, of which 5 were fatal, and 21 were cases of injury. There was one fatal accident to a passenger, who fell off a car, and there were 8 cases of non-fatal accident to passengers. No servant of the Department was killed, but four employés were injured. Thirteen accidents in connection with trams occurred to persons who were neither passengers nor employés, 4 of which were fatal, and 9 non-fatal. Eight of the total casualties arose from persons entering or leaving trams in motion.

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The number of passengers carried on the tramways probably exceeds 22,500,000, which would give the rate of fatal accidents as 0·2 per million, and of non-fatal accidents as 0·9 per million. These must be considered very light averages, seeing that the tramways for a great part of their course traverse crowded streets.

Private Tramways.

There are two tramways under private control within the Metropolitan area. One of these branches from the Illawarra Line at Rockdale and runs down to Lady Robinson's Beach, a distance of one mile, being chiefly used by excursionists visiting the shores of Botany Bay. The line was constructed in 1885. The second line passes through the township of Parramatta. It commences at the Park Gates, and continues as far as the Newington Wharf at Duck River, a distance of three miles, where it connects with the Parramatta River steamers conveying passengers and goods to and from Sydney. The line was laid down in 1883. A private tramway two miles and three quarters in length was opened in 1891 from Fassifern to Toronto, on Lake Macquarie.

A private line has been constructed at North Sydney for the purpose of connecting the cable tramway on the heights of St. Leonards with the village of Gordon. On this line a magnificent suspension bridge has been built, the only one of its kind in the Colony. It is designed in three spans—one of 500 ft., and two end spans each of 150 ft., with an altitude of 180 ft. above water level. The tramway has not yet been opened for traffic.

Omnibuses, Cabs, and Waggonettes.

In addition to the tramways, the citizens of Sydney are well provided with means of travelling within the city and suburban limits, as there are numerous omnibus and cab proprietaries. At the head of these stands the Sydney Tramway and Omnibus Company. No tramways are maintained by this company, as its name would imply, but lines of omnibuses have been established by it on all the principal routes of traffic from the city to the suburbs. The plant of the company consists of 1,032 horses, of which 886 are in work, and the remainder, 146, are held in reserve; while its vehicles consist of 166 omnibuses, 24 carriages, and 16 brakes and other vehicles. The company has 131 drivers constantly at work, and as many as 181 other employés, including clerks, mechanics, grooms, stablemen, etc. There are also public vehicles, belonging to private individuals or small associations, plying between the city and some of the more distant suburbs, making a total of 316 omnibuses in all.

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The number of cabs and waggonettes registered and licensed by the Transit Commissioners under the Municipal by-laws is 1,152, in addition to which there are 616 vans and other vehicles. The public interest is secured against exaggerated demands on the part of licensed cabmen and other drivers of public vehicles by a system of fares fixed on a scale liberal to the licensee, whilst not too high for the public to fairly pay. The drivers are placed under the direct control of the Transit Commissioners, who have power to obtain redress from the owners of the vehicles, should any just complaints be made against them. The following shows the number of vehicles of each class licensed during the year 1894, and the number of registered drivers :—

Description.	Vehicles.	License Fees.	Drivers, etc.	License Fees.
	No.	£	No.	£
Omnibuses	316	1,470	*561	256
Waggonettes	27	100		
Cabs	1,125	1,646	1,451	695
Drays and vans	616	578	582	145
Total	2,084	3,794	2,594	1,096

* Includes 24 conductors.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

In the matter of postal and telegraphic communication the Colony of New South Wales is liberally provided for; not only is the intercolonial telegraphic system fairly perfect, but the Colony is in direct communication with Europe and the outer world by means of the cables connecting with the various Asiatic continental telegraph lines. A submarine cable also connects the Colony with New Zealand, and has its Australian terminus within sight of the spot where Captain Cook landed on the shores of Botany Bay, and within a stone's throw of the monument erected to the memory of La Pérouse—the unfortunate and gallant emulator of the great English navigator—and the tomb of Père Le Receveur, the botanist attached to his staff.

The history of the Postal Department of New South Wales is interesting as affording a striking illustration of the manner in which very

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small beginnings have led to great results. For the first twenty-three years of the Colony's existence there were neither regular post-offices nor means of postal communication. The first post-office was established by Governor Macquarie in the year 1810, Mr. Isaac Nichols being appointed Postmaster. The office was in High-street (now known as George-street), at the residence of Mr. Nichols, who was, "in consideration of the trouble and expense attendant upon this duty," allowed to charge, on delivery to the addressee, 8d. for every English or foreign letter of whatever weight, and for every parcel weighing not more than 20 lb., 1s. 6d., and exceeding that weight, 3s. The charge on Colonial letters was 4d., irrespective of weight; and soldiers' letters, or those addressed to their wives, were charged 1d. Very little improvement in regard to postal matters took place for some years. In 1825 an Act was passed by Sir Thomas Brisbane, with the advice of the Council, "to regulate the postage of letters in New South Wales," giving power for the establishment of post-offices, and for the fixing of rates of postage. A proclamation was subsequently issued, fixing the rates of postage and the salaries and allowances of the postmasters; and at the same time persons were invited to tender for the conveyance of mails between Sydney and Parramatta, Windsor and Liverpool; between Liverpool and Campbelltown; and from Parramatta to Emu Plains, and thence to Bathurst. It was, however, not until 1828 that the provisions of the Act were put into full force. The rates of postage appear to have depended upon the distance and the difficulty of transmission. The lowest single inland rate was 3d., and the highest 12d., the postage on a letter increasing according to its weight, and the minimum fee being charged on letters not exceeding ¼ ounce. Letters between New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land were charged 3d. each (ship rate), and newspapers 1d. Other ship letters were charged 4d. single rate, and 6d. for any weight in excess. The privilege of franking was allowed to the Governor and a number of the chief public officials, and letters to and from prisoners passed free under certain regulations. In 1828 the total amount of salaries paid to the country postmasters was £34 7s. 9d., and the establishment in Sydney consisted of one principal postmaster, one clerk, and one letter-carrier. A letter-carrier was subsequently appointed for Parramatta, and he was authorised to charge the public 1d. on every letter delivered by him, which was his only remuneration. In 1831 a twopenny post was established in Sydney; and in 1835, under Sir Richard Bourke, the Act of 1825 was repealed, and another Act passed, which fixed the charge on a single letter at 4d. for 15 miles, 5d. for 20 miles, 6d. for 30 miles, and so on up to 1s. for 300 miles. In 1837 a post-office was established in Melbourne, which was then, of course, a part of New South Wales. Stamps were introduced in the same year in the shape of stamped covers or envelopes, which are believed to have been the first postage stamps ever issued.

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In the year 1838 the Sydney establishment had grown until it consisted of one postmaster-general, one accountant, six clerks, six letter-carriers, and one office-keeper, or fifteen persons in all. The revenue for that year was £8,390, and the expenditure was £10,357; there were as many as forty post-offices throughout the Colony, which then included what are now known as Victoria and Queensland, besides which, as New Zealand was not a separate Colony until 1841, the only post-office she had—at Korraika—was paid through the New South Wales Government. An overland mail to Adelaide was established in 1847, the postage on a single letter being 1s. 6d. The Postal Act was amended again in 1849, during the government of Sir Charles Fitzroy, when the postage on town letters was fixed at 1d., and on inland letters at 2d., while the postage on ship letters was 3d. in addition to the inland rate. The use of postage stamps in the present form was authorised, and the privilege of franking was abolished, petitions to the Queen, the Governor, and the Executive and Legislative Councils being the only communications allowed to pass free through the post.

From the discovery of gold in the year 1851 the history of the post-office has been one of progress and improvement. The Postmaster-General was originally a non-political officer, as the Registrar-General and the Auditor-General are at present. In the year 1855—the first for which an annual report was laid before Parliament—there were in the Colony altogether 155 post-offices. The head office was in George-street, on the same site as the present edifice, but the structure was small and inconvenient, notwithstanding its doric columns and pediment in front. There were no electric telegraphs in the Colony at that time, and the arrival of vessels at the Heads was signalled to the Observatory by means of flags and semaphores. It was in September, 1855, that the first railway was opened in New South Wales, and prior to that time the Southern and Western mails used to leave the General Post Office in old-fashioned mail coaches every evening. During that year the total number of miles travelled by the postal contractors, by coach and on horseback, was 1,023,255. The number of letters passing through the Post Office was 2,114,179, of which 617,041 are described as "foreign," or, in other words, were addressed to places beyond the Colony. The number of newspapers was 2,100,989, of which 1,281,613 were inland, and 819,376 were "foreign." Book parcels and packets were not reckoned separately, but were counted as letters. Ten petitions to the Governor or the Council were conveyed free during the year. The revenue of the Department for 1855 was £24,902, and the expenditure was £60,221, while the staff numbered 223 persons in all, of whom 56 were attached to the office in Sydney. The annual report states, with something akin to pride, that the communication with Victoria was not less than three times a week.

The first iron pillar letter-receivers in Sydney were erected in 1856. During the same year 22 miles of railway were utilised for postal pur

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poses, and 16½ miles were added in the following year. The number of letters delivered in Sydney in 1856 was 1,336,032, and in the country 1,481,416, being an average of about 10½ to every person in the community. There were 86,914 registered letters in 1857, and 7,873 oz. of gold were sent through the post that year, as against 23,712 oz. in the previous year. The postal revenue in the year 1857 amounted to £35,716, of which £34,031 was derived from the sale of stamps. The expenditure amounted to £63,865, out of which sum the conveyance of mails in the Colony absorbed £41,324, without reckoning £20,000 towards the subsidy for the conveyance of English mails. In his report for 1857 the Postmaster-General is obliged to admit that the mail contract for the conveyance of mails between the Australasian Colonies and the United Kingdom had proved "an utter failure, so far as the stipulated time-table might be taken as a criterion." Only 10 monthly mail-steamers arrived that year, and but one to contract time; while only 11 were despatched. The time allowed was 58 days from Southampton to Sydney, and 56 days from Sydney to Southampton. In 1894 there were 1,445 post-offices in the Colony, besides 450 receiving offices. The postal lines for that year extended over 33,064 miles, on which the mails were conveyed 2,649 miles by rail and tram, 824 miles by steamer, 19,331 miles by coach, and 10,260 miles on horseback. The number of miles actually travelled by the mails was 8,840,000, being an increase of 55,400 over the mileage of the previous year, and of 271,300 over that of 1892.

But while the number of miles travelled by the mails in 1894 was over 8 times the mileage travelled in 1855, the number of letters posted during the same period had increased 32 times, and the number of newspapers nearly 20 times. In 1894 the number of letters was 67,993,300, of which 62,446,600 were posted within the Colony, or 50 per head for every individual of the population. The number of newspapers was 41,667,300, of which the number posted in the Colony during that year was 38,142,200, or 30 per head. Packets and book parcels numbered 13,564,600, of which 12,760,200 were posted within the Colony, or about 10 per head; while in 1858, the first year in which they were enumerated separately, there were only 68,564 packets and parcels. Post cards were first introduced in 1876, when the number sent was 128,786; in 1894 no less than 963,400 were posted within the Colony.

A parcels' post, for inland and intercolonial transmission, was inaugurated on 1st October, 1893, the maximum weight being fixed at 3 lb. and 11 lb., according to mode of conveyance. The number of parcels carried under this system up to the close of that year was 44,265; while during 1894 there were 349,218 parcels carried. The foreign system, which has been in force since August, 1886, added, in 1893, 19,437 parcels to the total already given; and in the following year,

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18,672. Double cards, which may be closed against inspection, and which are designated letter cards, were made available for the use of the public on the 1st July, 1894, the rate charged being 1½d. each. These cards may be transmitted within the Colony, and to Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, Fiji, and British New Guinea. The number carried up to the end of the year was 142,400, while 11,300 were received, making the total which passed through the post office 153,700.

The progress made in regard to the means of postal communication with the United Kingdom and the continents of Europe and America is also marvellous. Instead of the unsatisfactory ocean mail service of 1857, which nominally brought monthly mails, with news 58 days old, there are now four great lines of ocean steamships, which bring mails *via* the Suez Canal at least once a week, the time occupied in the conveyance of the mails averaging 34 to 35 days. In addition, there is another mail service *via* San Francisco, which averages 38 days in transit between London and Sydney, and arrives and departs monthly; also a monthly service *via* Vancouver, by which mails are sent from Sydney to London in about 40 days. There is one other ocean mail route, namely, that taken by the Queensland Royal Mail Company's vessels, *via* Torres Straits; but it is used to only a small extent for New South Wales mails. This service need not, therefore, be embodied in the following table, which shows, as far as possible, the average time and the quickest time occupied in the transmission of letters by various routes between London and Sydney during 1894 :—

Service.	London to Sydney.		Sydney to London.	
	Average Time.	Quickest Time.	Average Time.	Quickest Time.
	days.	days.	days.	days.
Per Peninsular and Oriental S. N. Co.'s packets, *via* Brindisi	34	31	$34\frac{7}{17}$	33
,, Orient S.S. Co.'s packets, *via* Naples	$34\frac{9}{16}$	33	$33\frac{11}{13}$	32
,, Union S.S. Co.'s packets, *via* San Francisco	$37\frac{9}{13}$	37	$38\frac{1}{13}$	37
,, Messageries Maritimes' packets, *via* Marseilles	*	*	$31\frac{1}{2}$	30
,, Nord-Deutscher Lloyd's packets, *via* Brindisi	*	*	$37\frac{1}{2}$	33
,, Canadian-Australian packets, *via* Vancouver	*	*	$40\frac{1}{8}$	37

* These packets are not used by the General Post Office, London.

Regular steam communication with England was first established in 1852. Prior to that time the Colony had to depend upon the irregular

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arrival and despatch of sailing vessels, but in that year the steamships Australia, Chusan, and Great Britain were despatched from England, making the voyage in 60 days, and causing a strong desire in the minds of the colonists for a more frequent and steady system of communication with the Old World. The outbreak of the Crimean War in 1854 hindered the accomplishment of this object for a while, but in 1856 a line of steamers was again started, and the service was carried on by the Peninsular and Oriental Company and the Royal Mail Company for some years, without, however, giving so much satisfaction to the public as might have been expected.

As far back as 1854 a proposal was made for the establishment of a line of mail packets *via* Panama, and negotiations on the subject were carried on for several years between the British Government and the Governments of New South Wales and New Zealand. The result was that in 1866 the line was started, and continued in operation until the end of 1868, when it was terminated through the failure of the company by which it had been carried out. In the following year this Colony, in conjunction with New Zealand, inaugurated a mail service *via* San Francisco, which, with a few interruptions and under various conditions, has been continued up to the present time. The contract expired in November, 1890, and has since then been renewed from year to year, New South Wales at present paying a subsidy of £4,000.

The establishment of a mail route *via* America had the effect of stimulating the steamship owners who were engaged in the service *via* Suez, and from that time there was a marked improvement in the steamers laid on, as well as in the punctuality and speed with which the mails were delivered. The Peninsular and Oriental Company have, with very few interruptions, carried mails for the colonies almost from the inception of the ocean steam service until now. Towards the end of 1878 the Orient Company commenced carrying mails between Australia and the United Kingdom, and has continued to do so ever since. More recently the fine steamers of the Messageries Maritimes of France and the North German Lloyd's have entered the service between Europe and Australia, so that there are now one or two mails received and despatched every week.

During 1893 direct communication was established between Sydney and Vancouver Island, British Columbia, the New South Wales Government undertaking to pay an annual subsidy of £10,000 for the maintenance of this service. Contracts were made in 1895 by the Imperial Government with the Peninsular and Oriental and the Orient Companies for the extension of the mail service until the 31st January, 1898. This was the outcome of a decision of the Postal and Telegraphic Conference, held in Hobart in February, 1895, approving of the extension of the contracts until 1898, so that both the Australian and the Eastern contracts might expire during the same year.

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The amount paid by each contributing Colony, on the basis of population, towards the cost of the Federal Ocean Mail Service, for the year 1894, was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
New South Wales	26,992	11	8
Victoria	25,964	5	0
Queensland	9,544	13	4
South Australia	7,656	11	8
Tasmania	3,414	3	4
Western Australia	1,427	15	0
Total	£75,000	0	0

The contribution from the United Kingdom is £95,000.

The approximate net cost to the Colony of the Federal Ocean Mail Service *via* Suez and the San Francisco Service for the years 1892, 1893, and 1894, and of the Vancouver service for the last two years, may be gathered from the following statement:—

Service.	Estimated Net Cost.		
	1892.	1893.	1894.
	£	£	£
Suez (per Peninsular and Oriental and Orient Companies)	13,274	13,155	12,877
San Francisco (per Union S.S. Co. of New Zealand) ...	125	*2,050	*1,892
Vancouver (per Canadian-Australian Line)	.....	†3,763	7,846

* Under new contract. † For the period from 18th May to 31st December.

A subsidy of £1,200 per annum was for several years paid to the A.U.S.N. Co. for the transport of mails between Sydney and New Caledonia, New Hebrides, Sandwich Island, and Fiji. The same company also provide a twenty-one days' service between the principal Islands of the New Hebrides Group. A subsidy of £1,000 was paid for this service between the Islands when it was a monthly one. These votes were allowed to lapse at the end of 1891.

In the year 1865 the office of Postmaster-General was made a political one, at first without, and subsequently with, a seat in the Cabinet. The old Post-office building in George-street was found so small and inconvenient that it was resolved to build a larger and more commodious edifice on the same site, and in 1863 the business of the department was removed to a temporary wooden building in Wynyard-square. It was not until 1873 that the construction of the new building was sufficiently advanced to allow of the officers removing from the crowded and ill-ventilated structure in Wynyard-square, where they had carried on their business under great disadvantages and difficulties, to the present palatial structure, which is in every respect a credit to the Colony.

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The head-quarters of the Electric Telegraph Department, the Money Order Office, and the Post-office Savings Bank are in the same building, so that the Postmaster-General has around him all the various branches over which he presides. The following return shows the operations of the Post-office in five-year periods from 1855 to 1885, and annually since that date to the end of 1894 :—

Year.	Post-offices.	Receiving Offices.	Persons employed.	Extent of Postal Lines.				Distance actually travelled.	Cost of conveyance of mails, Foreign and Inland.	Income.	Approximate expenditure.
				Railway, Tramway, and steamer.	Coach.	Horse.	Total.				
	No.	No.	No.	miles.	miles.	miles.	miles.	miles	£	£	£
1855	155	8	223	*	*	*	*	1,023,255	45,412	24,902	60,221
1860	289	*	289	60¼	1,757½	6,413	8,231	1,461,518	44,303	45,613	71,391
1865	435	*	513	140¼	2,528	9,323	11,992	2,521,212	49,840	70,985	83,659
1870	562	*	690	339	3,865	10,038	14,242	3,062,458	48,649	84,441	86,722
1875	752	7	967	435	5,407	11,829	17,671	3,787,757	138,912	107,761	196,368
1880	927	119	1,536	891	8,717	12,819	22,427	5,246,373	174,238	194,084	268,128
1885	1,115	202	2,155	1,797	11,736	13,150	26,683	6,621,996	226,105	316,172	375,965
1886	1,157	217	2,307	1,948	12,540	12,606	27,094	6,891,200	233,723	330,591	396,710
1887	1,167	263	2,363	2,074	13,305	12,135	27,514	7,015,600	264,886	342,094	426,587
1888	1,203	288	2,501	2,219	14,411	11,530	28,160	7,144,500	248,403	368,956	415,392
1889	1,261	305	2,650	2,263	14,914	11,541	28,718	7,299,400	212,725	395,584	393,609
1890	1,338	325	2,861	2,273	15,774	11,547	29,594	7,463,000	231,467	427,380	435,395
1891	1,384	344	3,754	3,085	16,370	11,802	31,257	8,235,000	207,357	443,878	424,378
1892	1,423	377	3,136	3,217	17,467	11,616	32,300	8,568,700	210,426	447,945	447,726
1893	1,423	404	4,845†	3,412	18,380	11,000	32,792	8,784,600	209,792	755,918†	†883,066
1894	1,445	450	4,982†	3,473	19,331	10,260	33,064	8,840,000	214,670	760,889†	†884,856

* Not recorded. † All departments under control of Postmaster-General.

It will be noticed that prior to 1889 the Postal Department was carried on at a considerable annual loss to the State. This was due in a great measure to the wide area over which the population of the country is scattered, which necessitates a proportionately large expenditure for the carriage of mails; and also to the fact that newspapers, which form the bulk of the mail matter, are carried free. But it has always been held that the safe and regular despatch and delivery of the mails is an item of too much importance in the political, commercial, and social life of the Colony to be neglected, even though it should entail a charge of some thousands of pounds annually upon the general revenue. For some years past the difference between the income and the expenditure has been gradually diminishing, until, as the previous table shows, in 1889, for the first time, the income received exceeded the approximate expenditure, the excess amounting to £1,978. In 1890 there was, however, again an excess of expenditure of £8,065; but in 1891 the revenue exceeded the expenditure by £19,400, and in 1892 by £219. In 1893 the various offices under the control of the Postmaster-General were amalgamated, and for that and the following year the figures in the preceding table showing the number of persons employed, and the revenue and expenditure, refer to the Department as a whole.

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The revenue of the department for 1894 included the following amounts :—Postage (less approximate value of postage stamps used as duty stamps), £427,764 ; electric telegraphs, £146,669 ; interest on Savings Bank investments, £100,775 ; interest due on uninvested Savings Bank balances in Treasury, £33,250 ; telephones, £20,298 ; money order commission, £15,837 ; fees for private bags and boxes, £6,421 : collections from other Governments, £3,971 ; poundage on postal notes, £3,877, and miscellaneous receipts, £2,026. The expenditure for the year comprised :—Salaries, £426,313 ; conveyance of mails, £214,670 ; interest allowed to Savings Bank depositors, £120,880 ; cable subsidies, etc., £17,314 ; postal and telegraphic working expenses (various), £86,385 ; postage stamps re-purchased from the public and used as remittances by public officials, £13,780 ; and allowances to Railway Department for transacting postal and public telegraph business at railway offices, £5,515. Exclusive of 754 mail contractors, 4,982 persons were employed by the Department, of whom 1,363 were engaged in the Head Office. The following return will give an idea of the magnitude of the work done by the Post Office of New South Wales :—

Year.	Number of Letters.		Number of Newspapers.		*Packets & Book Parcels.		Post Cards.
	Beyond the Colony.	Inland and town.	Beyond the Colony.	Inland.	Beyond the Colony.	Inland.	
1855	617,041	1,497,138	819,376	1,281,613	‡.....	‡.....	.....
1860	868,746	3,362,015	910,478	2,758,305	12,196	71,540	.....
1865	1,106,045	5,222,308	1,028,954	3,660,904	28,852	221,052	.....
1870	1,103,200	5,980,300	1,206,600	2,608,100	36,700	121,000	.....
1875	1,719,100	11,998,800	1,385,900	4,876,700	82,300	274,700	.....
1880	2,776,000	18,956,500	2,381,200	11,409,800	146,600	565,000	153,360
1885	5,328,200	34,023,000	3,987,900	21,579,500	552,600	2,894,200	341,000
1886	5,582,700	37,267,200	4,276,300	†25,256,100	865,800	3,983,000	348,700
1887	5,624,000	39,221,000	4,744,400	†29,437,300	980,800	4,549,900	442,100
1888	6,202,800	42,783,200	5,255,000	28,500,400	1,041,600	5,560,300	520,920
1889	6,346,700	47,624,600	5,599,000	30,931,800	1,305,000	6,564,400	630,100
1890	8,109,300	54,908,400	6,949,900	33,647,300	2,214,300	6,725,300	677,400
1891	9,145,000	59,033,000	7,233,400	35,283,900	2,902,100	8,166,400	808,700
1892	11,549,000	65,025,800	9,529,300	35,991,300	3,274,900	9,105,300	827,360
1893	10,616,500	66,924,000	9,055,600	35,872,300	3,287,100	8,773,500	850,420
1894	11,125,500	56,867,000	9,503,900	32,163,400	5,654,200	7,919,400	963,400

* Not including packages transmitted by parcels post.
† These figures are supplied by the newspaper proprietors, and it is believed that the numbers given for these years are somewhat over-estimated.
‡ Included with letters.

The progress exhibited by the table just given is astonishing. In 1855 the total number of letters and newspapers, inland and foreign, was only a shade over 2 millions each, whereas in 1894 the number of letters had grown to 68 millions, and newspapers to 41½ millions, without reckoning over 13½ million packets and book parcels which, in the year first mentioned, were included with the letters.

The charge on letters between the Australasian Colonies and the United Kingdom, which had for a long period been at the rate of 6d.

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per half-ounce *via* Italy, and 4d. by the long sea route, was reduced in 1891 to 2½d. By an arrangement made at the Postal Congress held at Vienna in the middle of 1891, New South Wales, as well as the rest of the Colonies of Australasia, entered the Universal Postal Union on the 1st October, 1891. The effect of this has been to extend the reduced rate to all countries embraced in the Union. The letters posted in New South Wales to countries outside Australasia increased from 986,400 in 1891 to 1,101,000 in 1892, the newspapers from 793,600 to 873,100, and packets from 142,000 to 194,900; but in 1894 the number of letters had fallen to 1,026,100, and of newspapers to 675,500, while packets had increased to 313,700.

By an enactment made in June, 1893, it is required that newspapers be registered at the General Post Office, and both newspapers and supplements must be printed in New South Wales, from type set up therein, in order to entitle the publications to be transmitted as newspapers. If posted within seven days from the date of publication, newspapers are transmitted within the Colony free, if not exceeding 10 oz. in weight, and at the rate of ½d. each for every additional 10 oz. Newspapers for Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, British New Guinea, and Fiji (if printed in New South Wales) are charged ½d. each up to 10 oz., and ½d. for every additional 10 oz. To the United Kingdom or foreign countries the charge is 1d. each for any weight up to 4 oz., and ½d. for every additional 2 oz., the rates having been assimilated in October, 1894.

The following figures show the number of registered letters passing through the General Post-office in each of the last ten years. Statistics of the destination of the letters were not collected; neither were accounts kept of the business of other offices:—

Year.	Number.	Year.	Number.
1885	354,912	1890	780,202
1886	388,573	1891	1,047,080
1887	419,388	1892	1,075,241
1888	555,207	1893	812,036
1889	646,151	1894	856,128

The great increase in the number of registered letters up to 1892 was not a natural growth, but was largely due to correspondence relating to the so-called "consultations," or lottery-sweeps connected with horse-racing, probably one-third of the letters registered in 1892 being associated with these sweeps. The Government dealt with this evil in an Amending Postal Act, assented to in 1893. This Act provides that letters addressed to promoters of sweeps within the Colony, whose names have been gazetted, will not be delivered to the addressees, but opened and returned to the senders. The decline in the number of registered letters received at the General Post Office during the last two years has been due to the operations of this Act.

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Compared with the other provinces of Australasia and with the United Kingdom, New South Wales occupies a favourable position as regards the number of letters, post cards, and newspapers carried per head of population, as may be seen from the following table :—

Country.	Number per head of population.		Country.	Number per head of population.	
	Letters and postcards.	News-papers.		Letters and postcards.	News-papers.
New South Wales ...	55	33	New Zealand	40	14
Victoria	56	20	Australasia	47	23
Queensland	40	24	United Kingdom.....	53	4
South Australia	47	23	England and Wales..	58	4
Western Australia ...	62	62	Scotland	45	4
Tasmania	36	28	Ireland.....	27	4

New postal routes to the extent of 835 miles were opened during 1894, while 563 miles of routes were abandoned.

Money Orders and Postal Notes.

The money order system was brought into operation in this Colony in January, 1863, when nineteen offices were opened—the head office in Sydney, and eighteen branch offices in various parts of the Colony. In June of the same year the operation of the system was extended to the United Kingdom and all the Australasian Colonies with the exception of Tasmania, and the number of offices in the Colony was increased to forty-seven. The Colony of Tasmania entered into the arrangement in 1865, and the Department has continued steadily to progress. In 1894 there were 615 Money Order Offices in the Colony, seventeen new offices having been established and five abolished during the year. Postal notes were introduced on the 1st October, 1893. They range in value from 1s. to 20s., and may be obtained at all Money Order Offices, the poundage varying from 1d. to 4d. Postal notes may be exchanged between New South Wales and the other Australasian Colonies except Western Australia and New Zealand. The revenue derived from the postal note system during the last quarter of 1893 was £548 17s. 10d., and during the year 1894, £3,877 13s. 4d. In the chapter dealing with Private Finance further particulars of the money order and postal note systems will be found.

Post Office Savings Bank.

The Post-office Savings Bank, which, like the Money Order Office, is under the control of the Postmaster-General, was established in the year 1871 at the General Post Office, Sydney, with branches at the

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principal country towns. The growth of this branch of the service has fully kept pace with those already mentioned. In 1894 there were 482 Post-office Savings Banks in various parts of the Colony, an increase of 17 over the number open in the previous year. During the year 41,418 new accounts were opened, and 32,693 accounts were closed, the number of accounts remaining open at the close of the year being 122,795. The amount of deposits received was £2,160,610, or a decrease of £655,474 as compared with the business of the previous year. The sum of £120,880 was added to depositors' accounts for interest. The balance to the credit of depositors at the end of the year was £3,633,925. The average amount of each deposit was £7 6s. 9¼d., and the average balance at the credit of each depositor was £29 11s. 10¼d. Further information respecting the Post-office Savings Banks will be found in the chapter on Private Finance.

Telegraphs.

The electric telegraph was first opened to the public of New South Wales on the 26th January, 1858, when the line from Sydney to Liverpool, 22 miles in length, was instituted. From this small beginning the system has increased until in 1894 there were 813 stations in the Colony, and 12,201 miles of line open, carrying 28,085 miles of wire in actual use. At the close of 1894 there were 26 miles of line (posts) under construction. The following table gives a view of the business of the Electric Telegraph Department, from 1865 to 1894:—

Year.	No. of Stations.	Telegrams despatched, received, and passed through the Colony.		Revenue received.	No. of miles of Posts.	No. of miles of Wire.	Cost of construction.
		Number.	Amount.				
			£	£			£
1865	55	*138,785	31,362	29,769	.....	2,989	145,446
1870	86	*173,812	32,038	28,550	.....	5,247	195,545
1875	137	*719,745	69,193	48,657	.....	8,012	253,391
1880	289	1,319,537	123,172	84,110	.....	13,188	462,226
1885	404	2,625,992	191,192	155,074	.....	19,864	641,669
1886	425	2,661,126	184,053	158,128	.....	20,797	666,028
1887	434	3,258,733	267,062	164,511	.....	21,444	684,600
1888	460	3,936,830	311,144	185,965	.....	22,219	704,912
1889	485	3,932,670	309,980	186,862	10,732	22,606	713,663
1890	628	4,101,449	321,019	193,707	11,231	23,598	743,698
1891	674	4,046,251	311,780	†198,531	11,697	24,780	767,872
1892	706	2,976,109	287,765	185,014	11,905	26,443	801,918
1893	724	2,853,691	281,659	157,482	12,097	27,326	820,822
1894	813	2,464,074	269,217	147,903	12,201	28,085	831,471

* Number despatched only. † Includes £18,667 revenue from telephones.

The number of telegrams received and despatched during the year, inland telegrams being counted once only, amounted to 2,364,273, or about 2 per head for every individual of the population.

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The state of telegraphic construction in the principal countries of the world at the latest available dates is given herewith. The figures are interesting, though the circumstances of Australasia and the older countries are so dissimilar as to make a comparison between them more curious than valuable :—

Country.	Length in Miles—		Country.	Length in Miles—	
	Of Posts.	Of Wires.		Of Posts.	Of Wires.
Australasia	47,558	96,138	Italy	23,776	92,123
Argentine Republic	19,000	28,550	Japan	9,053	24,972
Austria-Hungary	39,354	117,087	Mexico	27,861	46,000
Belgium	4,617	22,739	Netherlands	3,442	12,354
Brazil	6,700	11,556	Portugal	3,985	8,889
Canada	31,841	69,111	Russia	78,367	189,825
Cape Colony	4,640	11,791	Spain	18,248	41,141
Chili	13,730	.....	Sweden & Norway	13,888	35,413
Denmark	2,281	7,874	Switzerland	4,515	12,258
France	73,559	275,370	Turkey	20,380	31,890
Germany	76,559	275,972	United Kingdom	35,286	214,804
Greece	4,751	5,630	United States	189,936	769,201
India, British	33,462	96,654			

Cable Services.

At a Conference of the Postal and Telegraph authorities held in Sydney in February, 1891, the question of the cable rates came under discussion, and a proposal of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company was agreed to, by which the colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania undertook to make good half the loss which the Company would sustain by a reduction in the schedule of cable charges. The amended cable rates came into force in May, 1891. For European messages the rates were reduced from 9s. 4d. to 4s. per word for ordinary messages, from 7s. 1d. to 3s. 6d. per word for Government messages, and from 2s. 8d. to 1s. 10d. per word for press messages, proportionate reductions being made for messages to countries other than those in Europe. The amount to be guaranteed to the Company for the time during which the contract was in existence was one half of the amount of receipts short of the sum of £237,736 (the amount of the Company's receipts in 1889, after deducting out-payments), the other half of the loss to be borne by the Company. Under this agreement, New South Wales had to pay in 1892 the sum of £15,397 7s. 8d. A conference held in Melbourne decided, in view of the heavy loss to the colonies, to increase the rate for ordinary messages from 4s. to 4s. 9d. per word, the extra cost

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being apportioned as follows:—To the Cable Company, 7d. per word; to South Australia, 2d. per word. The new rates came into force on 1st January, 1893, concurrently with an arrangement under which New Zealand became a contributor, on the same terms as the other colonies, towards the guarantees to the Company and South Australia in connection with the reduction in the international rates.

From May, 1893, to April, 1894, the amount paid by New South Wales to the Cable Company in respect of the guarantee in connection with the reduced rates mentioned above, was £2,056 4s. 6d., £272 12s. 8d. also being paid to South Australia. The total contribution for the year in respect of cable service was £19,598 18s. 4d. The amounts paid by the Colony for the year ended 30th April, 1895, were:—Duplicate Cable Subsidy between Port Darwin and Banjowangie, £13,150 15s. 10d.; Tasmanian Cable Subsidy, £1,704 14s. 8d.; South Australian Guarantee, £373 11s. 9d.; New Zealand Guarantee, £2,430 2s. 10d.; total, £17,659 5s. 1d. The receipts of the Cable Company in respect of the Australian business for the twelve months, being £976 in excess of the amount (£237,736) of the guarantee in connection with the reduced rates, New South Wales and the other colonies were not called upon to contribute anything towards this guarantee.

In the early part of 1892 an agreement was entered into between New South Wales and the Société Française des Télégraphes Sousmarins (now known as the Compagnie Française des Cables Télégraphiques) by which the latter undertook to lay down a submarine cable, for the purpose of establishing telegraphic communication between Queensland and New Caledonia, in consideration of the payment by New South Wales of £2,000 per annum for a period of thirty years, the amount to be reduced in certain circumstances, and Queensland to contribute at the same rate. Provision was made that the Government should have the free use of the cable for official messages up to a maximum value of £2,000 in each year. In October, 1893, cable communication with New Caledonia was established. It will be noticed that the payment of the subsidy to this line is not included in the total given above.

The construction of a Pacific cable, to connect Canada and the Australasian colonies, was advocated by an Intercolonial Postal and Telegraphic Conference, held in New Zealand during March, 1894, and was reaffirmed by another conference of a similar character, which met in Hobart in February, 1895. The Colonial Conference, which sat in Ottawa in the early part of 1894, also recommended that such a cable should be constructed; and the Secretary of State for the Colonies has decided to appoint a Commission, on which the British, Canadian, and Australasian Governments will be represented, for the purpose of inquiring into the best route for the cable, and the probable cost of its construction.

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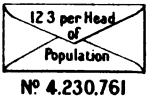
Letters Carried

Post-cards Included

1850

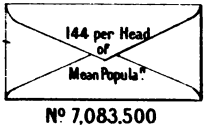
Nº 842.309

1860



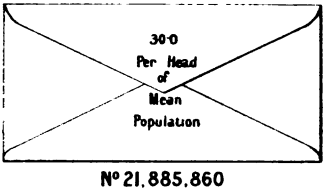
Nº 4.230.761

1870



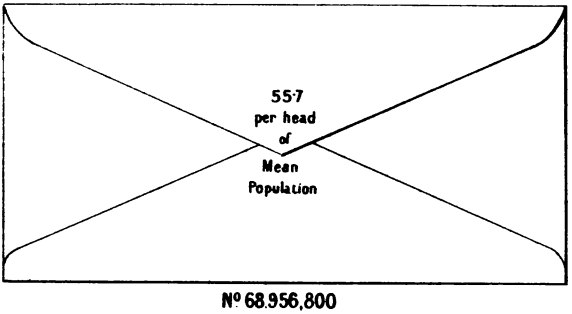
Nº 7,083.500

1880



Nº 21,885,860

1894



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The following table shows the amount of outward business transacted by New South Wales with Europe and the East during the last five years :—

Year.	Cable Messages sent from New South Wales.	Amount received.
	No.	£
1890, at old rates	10,316	47,878
1891, partly old, partly new rates	14,982	46,192
1892, at new rates	16,511	41,746
1893, ,,	15,587	50,625
1894, ,,	15,146	50,567

Compared with 1890, the year 1894 shows, therefore, an increase of 4,830 messages, and of £2,689 in revenue.

TELEPHONES.

The total number of telephone lines in use in the Colony on the 31st December, 1894, was 3,291, of which 2,927 were in Sydney and suburbs, and 364 in the country. The actual number of telephones in use was 3,382. The length of wire used in transmission of messages cannot be given, as the telegraph wires are largely used for telephones also. Some particulars regarding telephones in the Australasian colonies in 1894 will be found in the following table :—

Colony.	Exchanges.	Telephones.	Length of Wires (distinct from Telegraph Wires).	Revenue.
	No.	No.	miles.	£
New South Wales	18	3,382	*	20,298
Victoria	13	2,398	9,679	†39,179
Queensland	16	727	*	4,670
South Australia	8	845	2,244	13,617
Western Australia	2	319	*	2,552
Tasmania	3	607	438	3,104
New Zealand	24	4,479	4,471	21,553

* Not furnished. † 1893.

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PART XXIII.

PRIVATE FINANCE.

IN previous editions of this work an estimate was given of the value of private property, distinguishing land from improvements, and showing separately the value of each class of personal property. The estimate for March, 1893, showed a total of £405,187,000, or £336 per head. Since the date named there has been a general decline in values, and as no great increase of population has taken place to counterbalance the fall in the average value of property per head, the total for the whole Colony is doubtless now below the figures for 1893. No detailed estimate, however, has been made, and the general summary of property values has, therefore, been omitted. A general valuation of the Colony is now in progress, and will be available for publication before the next issue of this volume; it may, therefore, suffice to say that the popular impression of the extent of the decline in property value is not borne out by the returns so far received. The value of property, the subject of municipal assessment, will be found in a subsequent chapter devoted to Local Government, and the condition of the public estate has already been given under the head of Public Finance.

IMPORTATION OF CAPITAL.

Money has been freely poured into New South Wales, especially by British investors. During the twenty-four years which have elapsed since 1870, the sum of £96,205,000 has been invested in the Colony. Of this large sum, £46,304,000, or nearly half, represents the proceeds of loans obtained by the Government and Local Government bodies; £23,849,000, the amount of capital introduced by persons who have come to the Colony and made it their home, including large sums brought by selectors and others from the neighbouring colonies, and capital introduced to establish new industries; and £26,052,000, the amount of other capital sent for investment. Under the third category are included investments of persons living abroad, the money introduced by banks and finance companies, and the lendings of private persons. The total

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sum mentioned, viz., £96,205,000, did not, it should be understood, actually reach the Colony, since there were large counter payments to be made on account of the earnings of capital already in the Colony, and the income drawn by absentees. The total of such payments was, during the twenty-four years referred to, £83,346,000; so that the actual capital imported was £12,859,000.

The importation of capital by the Government has already been dealt with at length in the portion of this volume dealing with loans, and detailed reference thereto is not needed here. The import of capital by persons who have taken up their residence in the Colony has averaged somewhat about a million a year, and has been a material element in the progress of the Colony, as it has not entailed the export of interest or the repayment of the principal. The capital invested by persons not living in the Colony amounted to £26,052,000, nearly two-fifths of which have been introduced by the leading banks, and represent their capital, with the deposits received in Great Britain and employed in the Colony. Some £5,000,000 represents the capital employed by other investment companies; £3,200,000 the mining capital, which of course does not include any of the speculative prices paid for mining shares, but the capital actually brought to the Colony; while some £6,400,000 represents the miscellaneous investments, to a large extent advances on mortgages and investments in real estate in the city of Sydney. The earnings of the investments included in this category amount to £1,800,000, but at least half of this sum represents the returns from mining, chiefly from the silver-fields of Broken Hill, which are almost entirely owned outside the Colony.

The following are the particulars of the investments referred to above, grouped in periods of five years, except the last period, which embraces four years :—

Classification.	1871-75.	1876-80.	1881-85.	1886-90.	1891-94.	1871-94.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Capital imported by the Government.....	2,861,000	5,458,000	16,066,000	11,571,000	10,348,000	46,304,000
Capital introduced by persons taking up their residence in the Colony	2,732,000	5,760,000	8,459,000	4,391,000	2,507,000	23,849,000
Capital invested in the Colony by persons living abroad	57,000	4,820,000	8,051,000	12,183,000	941,000	26,052,000
Total capital introduced	5,650,000	16,038,000	32,576,000	28,145,000	13,796,000	96,205,000

The figures just given do not cover the entire case. British money was employed in the Colony prior to 1871, but not to any large extent,

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although no inconsiderable sum was invested in pastoral properties, especially in the Riverina district, by persons residing in other Colonies, chiefly in Victoria. The income derived from the investments last mentioned, and the income of absentees generally, reach some £1,200,000, which, capitalised at 5 per cent., amounts to £24,000,000. The import of money due to the increase in the public debt from 1871 to the end of 1894, has been estimated at £46,304,000, but the actual State and municipal debt owed outside the Colony at the close of 1894 was £52,968,000, so that practically the debt of New South Wales to persons outside its boundaries in excess of the value of property outside the Colony owned by New South Wales residents is as follows :—

	Amount.	Income.
To public creditors.....	£51,114,000	£1,969,000
,, municipal creditors.....	1,854,000	84,000
,, private creditors and absentees.....	50,052,000	3,008,000
Total.....	£103,020,000	£5,061,000

The sum required to meet the interest on investments in New South Wales, viz., £5,061,000, is undoubtedly very large, representing as it does £4 1s. 10d. per head of population. A considerable portion of this is really not a burthen on the community, being the result of antecedent production. Thus the mining industry alone pays £900,000 as profits and expenses on New South Wales mines owned out of the Colony ; but as the income would cease if the mines failed to be productive, this payment stands in a different category to the interest on the public debt, for example. Other payments, standing on much the same footing as the earnings of mines, amount to about £1,150,000, leaving the payments to be made to the creditors of the Colony, irrespective of production, approximately £3,010,000.

INCOME.

Any estimate of the incomes of persons living or holding property in New South Wales was, prior to the Census of 1891, more a matter of speculation than of exact calculation. The information obtained, however, under the provisions of the Census and Industrial Returns Act of the year mentioned provided material by means of which a fair approximation could be made both as to the amount and the sources of incomes, and this material, with the necessary corrections to bring it up to date, has been made use of in the following computations. The classification of incomes that has been adopted is somewhat lacking in scientific precision, but no better presentation of the figures is possible. Thus, the item of transport appears as £3,184,000, but the greater part

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of this sum might be assigned to the pastoral, agricultural, and other great industries as being directly due to them, and it may be here pointed out that the profits derived by the Railway Commissioners from working the railways and tramways are not included, as the figures refer to private incomes only. The earnings of the commercial class are set down at £7,468,000; but in this sum are not included profits of banks and other lending institutions, as their incomes are already included with the industries from which they are primarily derived. Thus, the manufacturing industry is credited with an income of £7,940,000, of which £5,390,000 represents wages, the remainder—£2,550,000—being the earnings of fixed capital, rents or rental value of premises, and interest paid on borrowed money. Similarly, the income derived from the pastoral industry is set down as £9,292,000; but a very large portion of this amount consists of the earnings of financial institutions, though, as might naturally be supposed, the exact amount so earned, and the amount to be set down as belonging to the nominal owners, cannot be determined with any pretension to accuracy.

The total income derived from New South Wales, or enjoyed by persons residing in the Colony, for the year 1894, was £59,080,000, thus distributed:—

Incomes derived from—	£
Professional and municipal	3,129,000
Domestic service, supply of food or lodging	3,574,000
Commerce	7,468,000
Transport by land or sea, including railways	3,184,000
Manufacturing or preparing materials	7,940,000
Construction, works and buildings	5,834,000
Agriculture and dairying	5,118,000
Pastoral industry	9,292,000
Forestry and fisheries	410,000
Mining	4,264,000
Public Service, excluding railways	2,978,000
Rental value of land and buildings used as dwellings	5,661,000
Other incomes	228,000
Total	£59,080,000

As is well known, the Public Service includes several branches of employment not usually associated with governmental administration in other lands; the figures inserted in the table include the earnings of all branches of State employ except the railways, the incomes derived from which have been placed under the head of transport. The earnings of persons engaged in commerce do not include those derived by capitalists from their investments, unless their capital was employed in trading. The

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rental value of land and buildings used as dwellings includes not only properties which produce rent, but also the annual value of premises occupied by their owners.

Another grouping of incomes may be made into employers, employed, and persons working on their own account. To these classes has been added a fourth—professional persons, with whom the servants of the State have been included for convenience rather than for accurate classification, seeing that the Civil Servants are in reality wage-earners. There are, however, various reasons which render it desirable that the class denominated wage-earners should be restricted so as to include only those who are popularly so called. Adopting these groups, the numbers and earnings are as follow :—

Class.	Income.
	£
Wage-earners	23,636,000
Persons working on their own account, exclusive of professional persons	6,959,000
Professional persons and Civil Servants	5,633,000
Employers, with earnings of capital owned in New South Wales	14,181,000
Rental value of buildings used as dwellings	5,661,000
Absentee incomes	3,010,000
Total £	59,080,000

The earnings of employers and of capital employed in New South Wales are placed at £14,181,000; this sum, however, represents not merely the income of the employing class, but also of companies carrying on co-operative enterprises, depositors in financial institutions, and the income derived from invested capital, no matter how small may be the amount. It unfortunately happens that there are no data on which could be founded an estimate of the amount of income derived by persons superintending the employment of their own capital, as distinguished from capital indirectly employed.

With wage-earners are included persons assisting relatives. Such persons are usually remunerated indirectly, with, in some instances, the addition of a small money wage. The total income of wage-earners is £23,636,000, distributed amongst 284,000 males, receiving £21,560,000, and 60,600 females with £2,076,000. These figures give an average of a little more than £76 per male, and £34 per female, wage-earner during twelve months.

The earnings of females amounted to at least £4,976,000; but their income was possibly considerably more, seeing that the income of female capitalists and land-owners is in addition to the sum set down as earnings. The wage-earning females had an income, as already stated, of £2,076,000, but to this sum should be added the approximate value of

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board which servants receive. Women working on their own account, who numbered 13,000, had an income of £920,150, while those engaged in learned professions, or employed by the State, numbered 11,200, with an income of £650,000.

The income of £59,080,000 disclosed in the foregoing tables cannot be looked upon as entirely within the disposition of the persons to whom it accrues. In a former chapter (page 308) the actual cost of living is set down as £46,655,900; in addition to this expenditure, £506,000 was paid away in local rates; calls by banks absorbed £750,000; payments to the State out of income by holders of land conditionally purchased amounted to £1,052,000, and life insurance premiums, £910,000. These were, of course, losses by fire, accident and the like which further reduced the spendable income; while £3,010,000, the income of absentees, was expended abroad. When every allowance has been made, it will be found that in spite of the serious checks to business experienced during the year, the savings of the community reached the very respectable sum of £3,300,000.

PROBATES.

The value of the estates in which wills were proved in the Colony, or for which letters of administration were granted, has increased very rapidly. On page 624 are given the values of probates, including letters of administration, from 1885 to 1894, and on page 763 the value of estates on which stamp duties were paid from 1886 onward. The value stated for probate purposes is usually greater than that on which stamp duty is paid, chiefly because the one includes debts and encumbrances, while the other is exclusive of them. The probate returns also include occasional duplications, but the number and value of such estates are not large, while the amount of debts included reaches a high figure, seeing that the difference between the nominal value of the estates for which probate or letters of administration were granted and the actual amount on which duty was paid during the last five years, was not less than £5,958,812 out of a total of £28,583,389. The table must also be taken with the qualification that during 1875 stamp duties were abolished, and were not reimposed until 1881. For all years embraced within this period the returns are incomplete as regards the amount sworn to. Though the value of estates cannot be taken as the basis of an estimate of the absolute wealth of New South Wales, the number of estates and their value give some indication of the distribution of that wealth. The following table gives the number of wills proved and letters of administration granted in quinquennial periods, so far as the same can be stated, from 1865 to 1886; and from 1886 to the end of the table, the number of estates on which duty was paid. The table also gives the number of estates compared with every hundred

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deaths of the whole population, of adult males and females, and of adult males :—

Period.	Proportion of estates per 100 deaths of adult males.	Proportion of estates per 100 deaths of adults (males and females).	Proportion of estates per 100 deaths of total population.	Number of estates.
1865–69	18·9	12·7	5·7	2,079
1870–74	22·7	15·0	7·5	2,747
1875–79	30·9	20·2	9·4	4,973
1880–84	34·8	22·4	11·0	6,825
1885–89	36·9	23·8	11·5	8,309
1890–94	40·2	25·1	12·8	9,788

The figures just given clearly point to the fact that year by year property is becoming more widely distributed, and this conclusion is borne out by figures which appear in other parts of this volume. In the period covered by the table, which may be taken as approximately thirty years, the proportion of persons holding property has more than doubled; for whereas in 1865–69 not quite six persons out of a hundred held property, the proportionate number in 1890-94 was nearly thirteen, and this increase in distribution was accompanied by a doubling in the value of the individual estates—a remarkable condition of progress, the equal of which it would be vain to look for in other countries.

In the edition of this work for 1892 it was assumed that few women held property worth taking into consideration in estimates founded on the probate returns. Researches since made show this assumption to be quite erroneous, and so far from property being almost exclusively confined to men, women have estates amounting in the aggregate to no inconsiderable value. From the available returns it appears that out of every hundred estates paying stamp duty twenty-one are left by women, or, in other words, the number of women's estates paying duty is nearly 27 per cent. of the number of estates belonging to men—a proportion altogether too large to be neglected.

In the chapter of this volume dealing with employment, it is pointed out that at the time of the Census there was an unemployed population of adult breadwinners equal to 4·8 per cent. of their whole number, and it is notorious that the number has increased since the date mentioned. It is obvious that an increasing ratio of wealth accumulation and an increasing distribution are consistent with a dearth of employment amongst a certain class of the community. It is a sound sentiment that a condition of regular employment of the whole population willing to work is more conducive to real prosperity than a condition which, while affording increased opportunities of saving to a large proportion of the community, leaves a not inconsiderable section uncertain

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as to their means of support during a large part of the year. The condition of affairs to which allusion has been made is one of the inconsistencies of modern progress by no means peculiar to Australia, and to remedy it is perhaps the chief aim of modern social legislation.

In the absence of the exact figures which property tax returns in other countries disclose, the actual distribution of wealth in New South Wales is a matter on which opinions may differ; but the collections under the Stamp Duties Act afford data which indicate the distribution with more or less accuracy. The following are the returns for six years :—

Year.	Under the value of £5,000.		£5,000 and under the value of £12,500.		£12,500 and under the value of £25,000.		£25,000 and under the value of £50,000.		£50,000 and over.		Total.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£		£		£		£		£		£
1889	1,740	1,159,405	76	610,040	21	379,995	16	588,765	15	1,566,090	1,868	4,304,295
1890	1,644	1,281,590	61	472,820	25	654,655	11	412,350	17	3,668,605	1,768	6,490,420
1891	1,836	1,254,339	74	604,290	28	512,425	16	506,580	6	717,770	1,960	3,595,504
1892	1,990	1,390,502	76	596,480	20	381,860	19	720,320	14	1,488,145	2,119	4,577,307
1893	1,799	1,235,445	68	533,455	24	381,960	11	394,145	8	1,284,735	1,910	3,829,740
1894	1,912	1,361,390	68	540,490	29	494,815	15	563,890	7	1,171,005	2,031	4,131,590
Total	10,921	7,682,677	423	3,357,675	157	2,805,110	88	3,186,050	67	9,897,350	11,656	26,928,862

Owing to the large number of women holding property, no comparison can be considered on correct lines which neglects their numbers. If, therefore, it be assumed that the adult population at the middle of 1895 numbered 634,970, and of these 25·1 per cent.—that is to say, about 159,380 persons—were the possessors of property, and assuming further that the sum of £405,187,000, which was the valuation of the wealth of the Colony in 1893, was distributed amongst the 159,380 persons in the same proportions as the £26,928,862 ascertained in the table just given was distributed amongst the 11,656 persons in whose estates stamp duties were paid, then the following would be the present distribution of property in New South Wales :—

Class of Estates.	Persons with estates.	Total value of estates of each class.	Proportion of total property in each class.
	No.	£	per cent.
Under £5,000	149,330	115,478,000	28·5
£5,000 and under £12,500	5,784	50,648,000	12·5
£12,500 and under £25,000	2,147	42,140,000	10·4
£25,000 and under £50,000	1,203	47,812,000	11·8
Over £50,000	916	149,109,000	36·8
Total	159,380	405,187,000	100·0

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These figures show that nearly one half of the property of the Colony is in the hands of 2,119, and almost three-fourths in the hands of 10,050 persons.

According to the proportions already acertained, the possessors of property would comprise 125,910 males and 33,470 females; and those who have no property, or so little as not to be worth while making it the subject of formal bequest, 475,590 adults, viz., 238,680 males and 236,910 females. These figures are given with no little diffidence, because all deductions based on the probate returns, and not taking into consideration the ages of the persons leaving property, are open to error. Further researches now in progress may or may not support the figures, but it can be said that, so far as investigations have proceeded, nothing has been disclosed that would tend to discredit their substantial accuracy.

In the Statistical Abstract of the United Kingdom the number of estates on which probate duty was paid for the six years 1888–89 to 1893–94 is stated at 302,055. Making the liberal allowance of one-fourth for successions, of which the number is not given, the percentage of persons owning property would be about 8·8, as against 12·8 in New South Wales for the same period.

CURRENCY.

The coins circulating in Australasia are those of the United Kingdom. Gold is the standard; the silver and copper current are more properly tokens than coins. Gold coins are legal tender to any amount; silver for an amount not exceeding forty shillings; and bronze for one shilling. The standard weight and fineness of each coin are given below. The least current weight of a sovereign is 122·5 Imperial grains, and of a half-sovereign 61·125 grains :—

Denomination of Coin.		Standard Weight.	Standard Fineness.
		Imperial grains.	
Gold	Sovereign.....	123·27447	Eleven-twelfths fine gold, one-twelfth alloy, or decimal fineness ·91666.
	Half-sovereign.....	61·63723	
Silver	Crown.....	436·36363	Thirty-seven-fortieths fine silver, three-fortieths alloy, or decimal fineness ·925.
	Double Florin.....	349·09090	
	Half-crown	218·18181	
	Florin	174·54545	
	Shilling.....	87·27272	
	Sixpence.....	43·63636	
	Threepence	21·81818	
Bronze.....	Penny.....	145·83333	Mixed metal, copper, tin, and zinc.
	Halfpenny	87·50000	

Gold coins only are struck at the Sydney Mint, though silver and bronze of English coinage are also issued. Negotiations have been

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entered into with the Imperial authorities to secure the right of coining silver as well as gold, and the Governments of New South Wales and Victoria are both pressing their claims, which will most probably be allowed; but as silver is merely a token and not a legal tender coin, the value of the concession is possibly much over-rated.

Standard or sovereign gold has a fineness of 22 carat, and is worth £3 17s. 10½d. per ounce; pure gold, or 24 carat, is worth £4 4s. 11$\frac{6}{11}$d. per ounce. The whole of the gold contained in deposits sent to the Sydney Branch of the Royal Mint for melting, assaying, and coining is accounted for at the rate of £3 17s. 10½d. per ounce standard or sovereign gold.

Standard silver is 0·925 fine. Owing partly to its greatly increased production, and still more to its demonetisation in a large part of Europe, and the restrictions placed upon its free coinage in countries which still have a double standard of coinage, its value has decreased by over 50 per cent. during the last twenty-five years. The average price of standard silver in the London market for each year since 1871 is given in the annual reports of the Deputy Master of the Royal Mint as follows:—

Year.	Price per standard ounce.	Year.	Price per standard ounce.	Year.	Price per standard ounce.
	d.		d.		d.
1871	60$\frac{9}{16}$	1879	51$\frac{3}{16}$	1887	44$\frac{5}{8}$
1872	60$\frac{1}{4}$	1880	52$\frac{1}{4}$	1888	42$\frac{7}{8}$
1873	59$\frac{1}{4}$	1881	51$\frac{3}{4}$	1889	42$\frac{11}{16}$
1874	58$\frac{5}{16}$	1882	51$\frac{13}{16}$	1890	47$\frac{3}{4}$
1875	56$\frac{13}{16}$	1883	50$\frac{9}{16}$	1891	45$\frac{1}{16}$
1876	53	1884	50$\frac{11}{16}$	1892	39$\frac{13}{16}$
1877	54$\frac{3}{4}$	1885	48$\frac{5}{8}$	1893	35$\frac{5}{8}$
1878	52$\frac{9}{16}$	1886	45$\frac{3}{8}$	1894	29

The fluctuations in its value during 1894 are shown in the following table of average monthly prices:—

Month.	Price per standard ounce.	Month.	Price per standard ounce.	Month.	Price per standard ounce.
	d.		d.		d.
January.....	31$\frac{3}{8}$	May	28$\frac{11}{16}$	September ...	29$\frac{5}{8}$
February	29$\frac{3}{16}$	June	28$\frac{11}{16}$	October.....	29$\frac{3}{16}$
March	27$\frac{1}{4}$	July	28$\frac{11}{16}$	November.....	28$\frac{15}{16}$
April	28$\frac{13}{16}$	August	29$\frac{3}{8}$	December.....	27$\frac{3}{4}$

The nominal value of one pound (avoirdupois) of bronze coined into pence is 4s., and into halfpence or farthings, 3s. 4d.

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The weight of gold sent for coinage from the first opening of the Mint on the 14th May, 1855, to the end of 1894, was 21,203,831 oz., valued at £79,204,132. Of this quantity New South Wales produced only 8,097,161 oz., of the value of £30,687,970, the amount from each Colony being:—

Colony where gold was produced.	Weight.	Value.
	oz.	£
Queensland	8,849,230	31,542,325
New South Wales	8,097,161	30,687,970
New Zealand	2,436,978	9,622,380
Victoria	1,442,672	5,923,441
South Australia	78,734	279,296
Tasmania	12,148	45,872
Other countries	26,522	92,899
Old coin	260,386	1,009,949
Total	21,203,831	79,204,132

The foregoing figures are to the close of 1894. In 1895, up to the 30th September, 539,853 oz., valued at £1,935,295, were received by the Sydney Mint, so that the total to the date mentioned was 21,743,684 oz., valued at £81,139,427.

The greater part of the gold won in New South Wales and Queensland, and also part of the produce of New Zealand and South Australia, come to Sydney for coinage; but by far the larger portion of the gold of the colonies last mentioned, as well as of the other colonies of the group, goes to Melbourne. The total value of gold raised in Australasia to the end of 1894 amounted to £370,450,779, of which £79,204,132, equivalent to 21·4 per cent., passed through the Mint of this Colony. The value of gold coin and bullion issued up to the end of 1894 was £79,033,847, of which £76,072,000 worth of gold was converted into coin, the value of sovereigns and half-sovereigns being:—

Year.	Sovereigns.	Half-sovereigns.	Total.
	£	£	£
1855 to 1884	48,693,500	2,280,500	50,974,000
1885	1,486,000	.....	1,486,000
1886	1,667,000	41,000	1,708,000
1887	2,002,000	67,000	2,069,000
1888	2,187,000	.....	2,187,000
1889	3,262,000	32,000	3,294,000
1890	2,808,000	.....	2,808,000
1891	2,596,000	77,000	2,673,000
1892	2,837,000	.....	2,837,000
1893	2,844,000	125,000	2,969,000
1894	3,067,000	.....	3,067,000
Total	73,449,500	2,622,500	76,072,000

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Bronze coin was first issued from the Mint in 1868, and silver coin in 1879, the respective value of each to the close of the year 1894 being:—Bronze, £39,410; and silver, £443,800. The amount of each particular currency issued to the end of 1894 is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Silver Coin.						Bronze Coin.
	Half-crowns and crowns.	Florins and double florins.	Shillings.	Sixpences.	Threepences.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1868 to 1884	81,200	65,400	74,000	17,500	22,000	260,100	24,930
1885	11,100	7,200	12,450	5,550	7,600	43,900	2,485
1886	2,600	200	5,500	1,450	7,650	17,400	1,095
1887	2,375	700	1,850	500	690	6,115	800
1888	1,425	900	3,250	3,100	2,610	11,285	1,630
1889	7,800	4,000	3,900	2,700	3,975	22,375	1,560
1890	7,560	8,600	9,200	4,500	5,375	35,175	1,460
1891	2,000	1,800	4,100	5,100	4,200	17,200	1,980
1892	1,500	4,000	4,300	2,500	1,625	13,925	2,065
1893	2,800	2,200	3,500	1,000	425	10,025	840
1894	1,900	1,100	900	1,500	900	6,300	505
Total... £	122,200	96,200	122,950	45,400	57,050	443,800	39,410

The difference between the nominal value of silver and the average price per standard ounce paid by the London Mint represents the seignorage or gross profit. The coinage or nominal value of silver per standard ounce is 5s. 6d., and the price per ounce paid by the London Mint during 1894 averaged 2s. 5¼d., the difference—3s. 0¾d.—representing the seignorage accrued. Against this must be placed the loss to the Imperial Government by purchase of worn silver at its nominal value; but after making all necessary allowances for loss by abrasion, minting, etc., a considerable margin of profit remains. As, however, silver coins are merely tokens, the demand for them is necessarily limited, the average annual issue of silver coin by the Sydney Mint for twenty-seven years being about £16,000. The average price of silver from 1868 to 1894 was about 50d. per ounce. If all the silver issued by the Sydney Mint since 1868 had been coined there, the gross profits for the whole period would not have amounted to more than about £100,000, and from this would have to be deducted the loss on old coin withdrawn and the cost of minting.

The gold bullion issued by the Mint is partly pure gold in small quantities for the use of jewellers, chemists, and others; but the bulk

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consists of 10-oz. ingots of sovereign gold, which has, of late years, been principally exported to India by the Sydney branch of the "Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris." The total amount of gold bullion issued during 1894 was valued at £998 only, and to the end of 1894 at £2,961,847.

Worn gold coins have been received at the Mint for recoinage since 1876, and silver coins since 1873. Light gold coins are received in parcels of not less than £50 nominal value, and recoined free of charge, but depositors must bear the loss by abrasion. The nominal value of gold coin withdrawn from circulation during 1894 was £65,557, the net loss by recoinage being £151, or 0·231 per cent. For the whole period from 1876 to 1894 the corresponding figures were £824,208, £2,701, and 0·328 per cent.

Silver coin of the value of £4,078, and weighing 14,829·27 oz., was withdrawn during 1894. On this the net loss, after melting, was found to be 1,522·07 oz., or 10·26 per cent. The value of silver coin withdrawn from 1873 to 1894 was £135,556; its weight, 492,928·25 oz.; and the net loss, 62,238·15 oz., or 12·63 per cent. All silver coin withdrawn is forwarded to London for recoinage.

The expense of the Sydney branch of the Royal Mint is borne by the local Government, £15,000 being set apart annually for that purpose. Special votes for construction, repairs, and furniture have, however, been passed occasionally, as will be seen from the subjoined table, which shows the total cost of administration, as well as the net cost to the Colony for the last ten years:—

Year.	Actual Expenditure from Consolidated Revenue.			Mint Receipts (paid into Consolidated Revenue).	Net Annual Charge to Colony for working of Mint.
	On Ordinary Administration (including Pensions, Stores, and Stationery).	On Construction, Repairs, and Furniture.	Total.		
	£	£	£	£	£
1885	13,750	36	13,786	7,631	6,155
1886	13,387	582	13,969	7,897	6,072
1887	13,487	17	13,504	10,328	3,176
1888	13,495	1	13,496	10,906	2,590
1889	13,622	1,922	15,544	12,084	3,460
1890	14,955	120	15,075	13,208	1,867
1891	14,357	417	14,774	13,929	845
1892	13,344	283	13,627	11,652	1,975
1893	14,293	555	14,848	13,198	1,650
1894	14,028	5,823	19,851	16,705	3,146

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The receipts of the Mint, which are paid into the Consolidated Revenue, are made up of charges for coining gold, fees for assays, etc., and profits on sale of silver. The Mint retains all silver contained in deposits, and makes payment for the amount in excess of 2 per cent. at a rate which is from time to time notified in the *Gazette*, and which during 1894 was 1s. 9d. per oz. The following table shows the scale of charges :—

Quantity.	Gold raised in New South Wales.	Gold certified to be the produce of any colony or country other than N. S. Wales.
In deposits of less than 500 ounces, standard.	6d. per ounce, six shillings being charged for a deposit under 12 ounces.	5d. per ounce, five shillings being charged for a deposit under 12 ounces.
In deposits of 500 ounces and over, but less than 5,000 ounces ounces, standard.	4d. per ounce	3d. per ounce.
In deposits of 5,000 ounces, standard, and over.	2d. per ounce	1d. per ounce.

The total receipts of the Mint since its establishment in 1855 are shown below :—

Year.	Mint Charges.		Profit on Sale of Silver.	Fees for Assays and Crushings, and Proceeds of Sweep.	Total Mint Receipts (paid into Consolidated Revenue.)
	On New South Wales Gold.	On Gold of other Colonies or Countries.			
	£	£	£	£	£
1855 to 1884	257,376	121,583	39,994	52,374	471,327
1885	1,786	2,661	2,607	577	7,631
1886	1,871	3,080	2,000	946	7,897
1887	2,119	4,003	2,796	1,410	10,328
1888	1,649	3,483	3,678	2,096	10,906
1889	2,299	4,613	3,434	1,738	12,084
1890	2,432	4,152	4,772	1,852	13,208
1891	2,881	3,854	5,319	1,875	13,929
1892	2,938	3,893	3,164	1,657	11,652
1893	3,624	3,713	4,290	1,571	13,198
1894	4,439	3,759	5,402	3,105	16,705
Total	283,414	158,794	77,456	69,201	588,865

In former issues of this work tables were given purporting to show the amount of coin in private hands. These tables were given on the

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authority of the Mint, and were deduced from the statistics of gold and silver imported and exported. For 1894 the amounts would be:—

Coinage.	Total.	Per Inhabitant.
	£	£ s. d.
Gold	4,439,800	3 11 9
Silver	369,300	0 6 0
Bronze	31,600	0 0 6
Total	4,840,700	3 18 3

It has been contended that passengers by outward steamers usually take with them a supply of gold which greatly exceeds the amount brought to the Colony by passengers inward. This may be conceded, inasmuch as passengers commencing the voyage would naturally be possessed of a larger stock of money than those whose voyage is practically over. Early in 1892 the general manager of one of the principal banks in Sydney obtained returns from the three banking institutions with the largest receiving business, and it was found that the coin paid in was equal to precisely half the value of the notes deposited at the same time. From this it has been claimed that the coin in private hands is not more than half the note issue outstanding, which at the time the estimate was made was not more than £1,450,000. On this assumption the coin in private hands would have been £725,000, as compared with £4,416,000 estimated by the Mint as being the probable quantity at the same period. While not maintaining the absolute accuracy of the latter estimate, it may be pointed out that there are many sound reasons why the estimate of £725,000 should not be entertained. Bank notes are continued in circulation by several of the banks until they are practically worn out, and a large number of persons not over fastidious have strong objections to carrying notes about their persons when gold can be procured. The assumption that coin is withdrawn in large quantities by outward-bound passengers may be correct so far as gold is concerned, but not so as regards silver. It is, therefore, probable that the silver remains in the country, and the estimate of the Mint in regard to that metal may be accepted with some deduction for coin lost or destroyed. Another source of the accumulation of coin in private hands is hoarding, which recent events prove to be quite a common practice in the Colony, and the indestructible and unimpeachable sovereign is naturally preferred to the perishable bank note. Lastly, a large proportion of the half-sovereigns issued remains in circulation with silver as till-money, and not being paid into the banks would not be subject to the conditions of the estimate of the banking authority already alluded to.

An estimate, founded partly on the records and partly on observation, has been made by the author, which shows that the estimate of the Mint

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must be abandoned as being too high, and the amount of coin in private hands may be approximately stated as follows :—

	£
Gold	1,790,000
Silver	350,000
Bronze	30,000
Total	£2,170,000

This is equal to £1 14s. 8d. per inhabitant at the close of 1894. To the sum shown must be added £1,235,989 note circulation, so that the total active currency would appear to be about £3,406,000, or £2 14s. 5d. per inhabitant. As, however, the note issue is fully covered by gold in the Australasian Colonies, it is omitted from the following tables, in which, on the other hand, the coin held by banks is included for the sake of comparison. Including bank reserves, the gold and silver held in New South Wales amounted to no less than £7 11s. 4d. per inhabitant—a sum only slightly below that shown for France, and considerably in excess of that shown for any other country. The figures given in the tables are published on the authority of the Director of the United States Mint, Washington, with the exception of those for Australasia, which are based on a special estimate. The total stocks of money held in various countries in 1894 were as follow :—

Country.	Gold.	Silver.			Uncovered Paper.
		Full Tender.	Limited Tender.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	113,168,000	.....	23,045,000	23,045,000	23,333,000
Austria-Hungary	26,749,000	16,667,000	8,230,000	24,897,000	30,103,000
Belgium	11,317,000	9,876,000	1,420,000	11,296,000	10,535,000
Bulgaria	165,000	700,000	701,000	1,401,000	.....
Denmark	2,922,000	.....	1,111,000	1,111,000	1,111,000
France	169,752,000	89,362,000	11,913,000	101,275,000	18,210,000
Germany	128,600,000	21,605,000	22,633,000	44,238,000	18,107,000
Greece	103,000	206,000	412,000	618,000	8,642,000
Italy	19,753,000	2,058,000	4,115,000	6,173,000	34,485,000
Netherlands	5,679,000	10,988,000	638,000	11,626,000	7,387,000
Norway	1,502,000	.....	391,000	391,000	802,000
Portugal	8,004,000	.....	5,103,000	5,103,000	11,420,000
Roumania	3,086,000	720,000	1,029,000	1,749,000	2,737,000
Russia	93,621,000	.....	9,276,000	9,276,000	109,053,000
Servia	617,000	391,000	.....	391,000	782,000
Spain	8,230,000	25,926,000	10,288,000	36,214,000	22,037,000
Sweden	1,337,000	.....	988,000	988,000	967,000
Switzerland	3,086,000	2,058,000	1,029,000	3,087,000	3,416,000
Turkey	10,288,000	6,173,000	2,057,000	8,230,000	.....
China	.....	154,320,000	.....	154,320,000	.....
India	.....	195,472,000	.....	195,472,000	7,613,000
Japan	16,461,000	14,815,000	3,354,000	18,169,000	.....
Straits Settlements	.....	23,662,000	.....	23,662,000	.....
Egypt	24,691,000	.....	3,086,000	3,086,000	.....
Canada	2,881,000	.....	1,029,000	1,029,000	5,967,000
Central American States	103,000	1,646,000	.....	1,646,000	823,000
Cuba	3,704,000	309,000	.....	309,000	.....
Hayti	412,000	432,000	165,000	597,000	.....
Mexico	1,029,000	10,288,000	.....	10,288,000	412,000
South American States	8,230,000	6,173,000	.....	6,173,000	113,168,000
United States	128,929,000	113,106,000	15,555,000	128,661,000	97,880,000
Australasia	29,786,000	.....	1,162,000	1,162,000	.....

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The amounts per inhabitant for the same countries are shown below:—

Country.	Gold.	Silver.	Uncovered Paper.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom	2 18 4	0 11 11	0 12 0	4 2 3
Austria-Hungary	0 12 5	0 11 6	0 13 11	1 17 10
Belgium	1 16 6	1 16 5	1 14 0	5 6 11
Bulgaria	0 1 1	0 9 0	.....	0 10 1
Denmark	1 6 7	0 10 1	0 10 1	2 6 9
France	4 19 1	2 12 11	0 9 6	8 1 6
Germany	2 12 1	0 17 11	0 7 4	3 17 4
Greece	0 0 11	0 5 7	3 18 7	4 5 1
Italy	0 13 0	0 4 0	1 2 7	1 19 7
Netherlands	1 4 2	2 9 6	1 11 5	5 5 1
Norway	0 15 0	0 3 11	0 8 0	1 6 11
Portugal	1 14 1	1 1 9	2 8 7	5 4 5
Roumania	0 10 8	0 6 0	0 9 5	1 6 1
Russia	0 15 1	0 1 6	0 17 7	1 14 2
Servia	0 5 7	0 3 7	0 7 1	0 16 3
Spain	0 9 5	2 1 3	1 5 2	3 15 10
Sweden	0 5 7	0 4 2	0 4 0	0 13 9
Switzerland	1 1 3	1 1 3	1 3 7	3 6 1
Turkey	0 5 3	0 4 3	.....	0 9 6
China	.....	0 8 7	.....	0 8 7
India	.....	0 13 3	0 0 6	0 13 9
Japan	0 8 0	0 8 10	.....	0 16 10
Straits Settlements	.....	6 4 6	.....	6 4 6
Egypt	3 12 9	0 9 1	.....	4 1 10
Canada	0 12 0	0 4 3	1 4 11	2 1 2
Central American States	0 0 7	0 10 0	0 5 0	0 15 7
Cuba	2 6 4	0 3 10	.....	2 10 2
Hayti	0 8 3	0 11 11	.....	1 0 2
Mexico	0 1 8	0 17 0	0 0 8	0 19 4
South American States	0 4 7	0 3 5	3 2 11	3 10 11
United States	1 17 5	1 17 4	1 2 7	4 17 4
Australasia	7 3 5	0 5 7	.....	7 9 0

Movements of Gold.

Since the discovery of gold in the year 1851 large quantities of that metal—in the form of coin as well as bullion—have been exported from the Australasian Colonies every year. The returns of gold imported and exported from each of the Colonies, calculated for ten-year periods from the year 1851 to the end of 1894, are given herewith. The tables also show the amount by which the exports have exceeded the imports in the various Colonies, or *vice versa*, as the case may be. The largest exporters of gold, it will be found, are the largest producers, as Victoria, New Zealand, and Queensland. The other Colonies now produce very little more than suffices to meet their local requirements. The returns of the gold imports and exports for New South Wales, it must be remembered, are swollen by large quantities of Queensland gold, which is simply sent

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to Sydney to be minted, and then exported in the shape of coin. The imports and exports for each Colony were as follow :—

Colony.	Imports of Gold.					
	1851-60.	1861-70.	1871-80.	1881-90.	1891-94.	1851-94.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	3,874,764	12,148,037	13,308,140	18,018,550	11,955,928	59,305,419
Victoria	4,349,457	11,821,815	10,868,837	7,486,861	5,201,987	39,728,957
Queensland	.....	367,025	1,383,822	2,532,705	1,401,016	5,684,568
South Australia	1,091,012	882,149	1,622,202	1,919,341	1,362,886	6,877,590
Western Australia	.....	19,310	39,710	223,654	481,900	764,574
Tasmania	.....	59,500	402,446	569,958	220,350	1,252,254
New Zealand	170,328	1,727,925	2,312,327	2,780,009	1,405,735	8,396,324
Australasia	9,485,561	27,025,761	29,937,484	33,531,078	22,029,802	122,009,686

Colony.	Exports of Gold.					
	1851-60.	1861-70.	1871-80.	1881-90.	1891-94.	1851-94.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	12,211,831	25,804,687	18,557,134	18,296,059	11,300,596	86,170,307
Victoria	90,691,591	74,430,857	48,091,469	30,593,232	11,059,249	254,866,398
Queensland	.....	2,135,600	10,813,959	14,072,950	9,245,004	36,267,513
South Australia	2,991,967	486,516	521,893	1,245,793	1,381,388	6,627,557
Western Australia	.....	38,896	1,710	179,334	1,570,010	1,789,950
Tasmania	843,029	25,245	567,486	1,442,712	669,807	3,548,279
New Zealand	219,309	22,022,747	16,527,470	10,417,390	4,098,409	53,285,325
Australasia	106,957,727	124,944,548	95,081,121	76,247,470	39,324,463	442,555,329

The excess of exports of gold for each Colony during each of the periods shown was as follows :—

Colony.	1851-60.	1861-70.	1871-80.	1881-90.	1891-94.	1851-94.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	8,337,067	13,656,650	5,248,994	277,509	*655,332	26,864,888
Victoria	86,342,134	62,609,042	37,222,632	23,106,371	5,857,262	215,137,441
Queensland	.....	1,768,575	9,430,137	11,540,245	7,843,988	30,582,945
South Australia	1,900,955	*395,633	*1,100,309	*673,548	18,502	*250,033
Western Australia	.....	19,586	*38,000	*44,320	1,088,110	1,025,376
Tasmania	843,029	*34,255	165,040	872,754	449,457	2,296,025
New Zealand	48,981	20,294,822	14,215,143	7,637,381	2,692,674	44,889,001
Total excess of exports	97,472,166	97,918,787	65,143,637	42,716,392	17,294,661	320,545,643
Average per annum	9,747,217	9,791,879	6,514,364	4,271,639	4,323,665	7,285,128

* Excess of Imports.

BANKING.

The laws relating to banks and banking at present in force are susceptible of great improvement, and the recent failure of many monetary institutions posing as banks has directed attention to the strong necessity for entirely revising the conditions under which deposits may be taken from the general public. All institutions transacting the business of banking are required by law to furnish quarterly statements of their assets and liabilities in a specified form, and from these statements and

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the periodic balance-sheets the tables in this chapter have been compiled. The returns furnished by the banks, though in compliance with the law of the Colony, are by no means satisfactory, being quite unsuited to the modern methods of transacting banking business; nor can they be taken without question as indicating the stability or otherwise of the banks. As a rule, nothing can be elicited beyond what is shown in the balance-sheets. These are published half-yearly, with the exception of those of two banks which are issued annually. No uniformity is observed as regards the dates of closing the balance-sheets, and the modes of presentation are equally diverse. Important items which ought to be specifically stated are lumped with accounts of minor import, and, as a rule, current accounts are blended with other accounts, instead of being separately shown. The value of the information vouchsafed to the public is illustrated by the fact that it was impossible to obtain, from the publications of several institutions suspending payment during 1893, the amount of their liabilities.

There are thirteen banks of issue operating in New South Wales, four of which have their head offices in Sydney, two in Melbourne, two in Queensland, one in New Zealand, and four in London. Of the four local banks, three have branches outside New South Wales, and the fourth confines its operations within the limits of the Colony. Two of the local banks—the Bank of New South Wales and the City Bank of Sydney—carry on their business under the provisions of special Acts of incorporation, and the liability attached to the shareholder is limited by the Acts to the amount subscribed for and an additional amount equal thereto; the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney (Limited) and the Australian Joint Stock Bank (Limited) are registered as limited companies. The following appears to be the extent of the liability of shareholders of banks trading in New South Wales at the middle of 1895:—

Bank.	Reserve or Capital Liability on ordinary shares when calls have been met.
	£
Bank of New South Wales	2,000,000
Commercial Banking Company of Sydney (Limited)	1,000,000
Australian Joint Stock Bank (Limited)	391,505
City Bank of Sydney	540,000
Commercial Bank of Australia (Limited)	Nil.
National Bank of Australasia (Limited)	750,000
Queensland National Bank (Limited)	320,000
Bank of North Queensland (Limited)	250,000
Bank of New Zealand	1,000,000
Bank of Australasia	1,600,000
Union Bank of Australia (Limited)	3,000,000
London Bank of Australia (Limited)	*750,000
English, Scottish, and Australian Bank (Limited)	543,650

* Includes £6,825 prepaid in respect of Reserve Liability.

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Capital Resources of Banks.

The total capital and reserves of banks trading in New South Wales at the middle of 1895 amounted to £23,648,791, but of this amount only £14,751,225 was employed in the Colony. The following is a statement of the capital paid up, distinguishing ordinary and preferential capital, and of the amount of reserves held by each bank at the date of balancing. In the case of several banks that have recently undergone reconstruction, there are reserves which are held in suspense pending realisation of assets, and of them no account has been taken in the statement:—

Bank.	Date of balance-sheet.	Capital paid up.			Reserve Fund.
		Ordinary.	Preferential.	Total.	
		£	£	£	£
Bank of New South Wales	30 Sept., 1895	1,894,200	.....	1,894,200	1,172,297
Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney (Ltd.)	30 June, 1895	964,870	.....	964,870	1,010,000
Australian Joint Stock Bank (Limited)	30 June, 1895	1,156,648	.....	1,156,648	48,000
City Bank of Sydney	30 June, 1895	400,000	.....	400,000	100,244
Commercial Bank of Australia (Limited)	30 June, 1895	1,731,261	2,112,060	3,843,321	....
National Bank of Australasia (Limited)	31 Mar., 1895	1,472,005	305,780	1,777,785	100,000
Queensland National Bank (Limited)	30 June, 1895	738,009	.....	738,009	....
Bank of North Queensland (Limited)	30 June, 1895	200,000	.....	200,000	10,000
Bank of New Zealand	31 Mar., 1895	1,059,745	2,000,000	3,059,745	45,000
Bank of Australasia	15 Oct., 1894	1,600,000	.....	1,600,000	800,000
Union Bank of Australia (Limited)	28 Feb., 1895	1,500,000	.....	1,500,000	1,000,000
London Bank of Australia (Limited)	31 Dec., 1894	1,240,208	171,930	1,412,138	....
English, Scottish, and Australian Bank (Limited).	30 June, 1894	816,534	.....	816,534	....

The preceding table shows the capital account at date of balancing, but most of the banks had made calls on their shareholders which will increase their paid-up capital. The amount of these calls and the total working capital that will be available when they are met are shown in the following table:—

Bank.	Capital called and being called up.		
	Capital paid up.	Capital being called up.	Total Working Capital.
	£	£	£
Bank of New South Wales	1,894,200	105,800	2,000,000
Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney (Limited)	964,870	35,130	1,000,000
Australian Joint Stock Bank (Limited)	1,156,648	17,867	1,174,515
City Bank of Sydney	400,000	.....	400,000
Commercial Bank of Australia (Limited)	3,843,321	1,268,739	5,112,060
National Bank of Australasia (Limited)	1,777,785	277,995	2,055,780
Queensland National Bank (Limited)	738,009	221,991	960,000
Bank of North Queensland (Limited)	200,000	.....	200,000
Bank of New Zealand	3,059,745	340,255	3,400,000
Bank of Australasia	1,600,000	.....	1,600,000
Union Bank of Australia (Limited)	1,500,000	.....	1,500,000
London Bank of Australia (Limited)	1,412,138	9,792	1,421,930
English, Scottish, and Australian Bank (Limited)	816,534	177,116	993,650

The calls being made, as shown in the table just given, represent a total of £2,454,685, and of this amount £158,797 is payable in Sydney, £1,546,734 in Melbourne, £221,991 in Brisbane, £340,255 in New Zealand, and £186,908 in London. The paid-up capital of banks

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operating in New South Wales has very largely increased during the past twenty years, viz., from £7,930,000 in 1875 to £19,363,250 in 1895; but these figures have no reference to the capital actually employed in the business of the banks, as will be seen from a subsequent table showing the excess of assets over liabilities in New South Wales, and are here inserted only for the purpose of facilitating comparisons which will inevitably arise when the question of the liabilities of banks is being considered:—

Year.	Banks.	Paid-up Capital.	Year.	Banks.	Paid-up Capital.
	No.	£		No.	£
1875	10	7,930,000	1891	16	13,526,136
1880	11	9,531,212	1892	14	12,384,637
1885	14	10,512,300	1893	13	15,129,749
1890	17	13,929,326	1894–5	13	19,363,250

Local Business of Banks.

The banks are required by the Act of Council 4 Victoria No. 13, passed in the year 1840, to make quarterly statements of their business in a prescribed form; but these statements are not all made on the same lines, and it is necessary, therefore, to make certain adjustments in order to put the figures on a comparative basis. The alterations consist in the exclusion from the assets of the balances due by branches and agencies outside New South Wales to the head office in Sydney. The following shows the assets and liabilities, and the surplus assets of the banks, at intervals from 1860 onwards; the surplus assets may be taken as representing the amount provided by the banks from their own resources. The figures relating to 1895 in this and subsequent tables refer to the quarter ended 30th September; for the preceding years they refer to the last quarter:—

Year.	Assets within the Colony.	Liabilities within the Colony.	Surplus Assets (Capital and Reserves used in local business).
	£	£	£
1860	8,053,463	6,480,642	1,572,821
1865	9,193,540	6,962,315	2,231,225
1870	9,863,071	7,198,680	2,664,391
1875	15,545,507	15,056,485	489,022
1880	21,658,317	19,485,862	2,172,455
1885	37,737,869	29,687,296	8,050,573
1890	50,751,647	37,248,937	13,502,710
1891	51,934,372	37,589,764	14,344,608
1892	51,665,479	37,171,379	14,494,100
1893	48,794,036	34,102,172	14,691,864
1894	47,195,214	31,263,120	15,932,094
1895	45,804,993	31,053,768	14,751,225

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If the table just given be compared with the previous one, showing the paid-up capital of the various banks doing business in the Colony, it will be seen that the tendency is for the banks to increase the proportion of their own capital employed in the Colony. Thus in 1875 the paid-up capital of the banks was £7,930,000, and their reserves at the same date were £2,496,457, making a total of £10,426,457 available from their own resources, while their surplus assets amounted to only £489,022; ten years later, when the capital stood at £10,512,300, and the reserves at £5,421,998, or together £15,934,298, the surplus assets were returned at £8,050,573; in 1890 the capital was £13,929,326, and the reserves £7,832,047, making a total of £21,761,373, while the surplus assets reached the very considerable proportion of £13,502,710; and in September, 1895, the capital and reserves of the thirteen banks now open showed a total of £23,648,791, and the excess assets of the local business were £14,751,225.

The banking returns do not admit of any useful deductions being made from them, as the classification, both of assets and liabilities, required by the Schedule to the Act is obsolete; thus, under the term deposits not bearing interest, the banks are accustomed to return interest accrued and all debts due by them other than deposits at interest, notes, and bills, the result being that in this respect the returns are misleading. It unfortunately happens, moreover, that there are no means of correcting the figures. That the over-statement is considerable will appear from the fact that the census returns showed deposits not bearing interest as £7,828,906, as compared with a total in the quarterly statements of £9,363,727.

The assets, which naturally form the most interesting feature of a bank's returns, show coin and bullion separately, but 95 per cent. of the other assets are marshalled together under the term "notes and bills discounted, and all other debts due to the bank," and the lines on which business is conducted are therefore entirely hidden from sight. The following statement of liabilities for the past six years refers to local business only:—

Year.	Banks.	Notes in circulation.	Bills in circulation.	Deposits.			Balances due to other banks.	Total liabilities.
				Not bearing interest.	Bearing interest.	Total.		
	No.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1890	16	1,557,805	127,442	10,064,518	25,395,600	35,460,118	108,572	37,248,937
1891	15	1,674,049	146,202	9,188,873	26,470,817	35,659,690	109,823	37,589,764
1892	14	1,439,871	104,223	9,207,109	26,357,083	35,564,192	63,093	37,171,379
1893	13	1,804,531	75,086	8,557,940	23,584,119	32,141,959	80,596	34,102,172
1894	13	1,235,989	146,911	9,412,761	20,380,032	29,792,793	87,427	31,263,120
1895	13	1,122,125	107,986	9,503,958	20,248,042	29,752,000	71,657	31,053,768

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The assets for the same period were as given in the following table:—

Year.	Banks.	Coin.	Bullion.	Legal Tender Notes and Treasury Notes.	Landed Property.	Notes and Bills discounted, and all other debts due to the Banks.	Notes and Bills of other Banks.	Balances due from other Banks.	Total Assets.
	No.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1890	16	5,619,111	87,659	....	1,644,179	43,009,559	287,568	103,571	50,751,647
1891	15	4,717,659	79,768	....	1,692,940	45,068,914	265,268	109,823	51,934,372
1892	14	5,217,371	95,894	....	1,801,590	44,135,729	227,794	187,101	51,665,479
1893	13	5,877,891	95,386	148,467	1,918,196	40,024,354	429,620	300,122	48,794,036
1894	13	7,330,005	100,525	....	1,938,321	37,378,947	214,503	232,913	47,195,214
1895	13	7,170,506	142,894	....	1,922,747	36,207,294	178,058	183,494	45,804,993

Metallic Reserves of Banks.

The proportion of metallic reserves which banking institutions must habitually keep in stock is not fixed by any enactment. Compared with the total liabilities, and with deposits at call and note circulation, the quantity of coin and bullion has varied very considerably from year to year, as the following statement shows; but prior to 1892 the proportion of gold to circulation and deposits at call rarely reached 50 per cent., and the proportion to total liabilities varied between 13 and 26 per cent. The approach of the crisis of 1893 was foreseen, or at all events most institutions strengthened their reserves in anticipation of the strain, while since the crisis all the banks have accumulated gold, so that their stock of coin and bullion in the September quarter of 1895 averaged £7,313,400—that is to say, more than six times the note circulation, and over three-fourths of the other liabilities at call. There can be no doubt that the present gold accumulations of the banks are greatly in excess of ordinary business requirements, and are maintained solely as a precaution against a revival of the unsettled conditions which marked the year 1893:—

Year.	Coin.	Bullion.	Total.	Proportion of Metallic Reserves— To total Liabilities.	Proportion of Metallic Reserves— To deposits at call and note circulation.
	£	£	£	per cent.	per cent.
1860	1,578,424	90,052	1,668,476	25·7	*
1865	1,328,504	125,554	1,454,058	20·9	*
1870	1,291,177	86,744	1,377,921	19·1	*
1875	2,317,600	104,947	2,422,547	16·1	40·4
1880	3,488,554	75,008	3,563,562	18·3	49·5
1885	4,027,055	76,260	4,103,315	13·8	39·2
1890	5,619,111	87,659	5,706,770	15·3	49·1
1891	4,717,659	79,768	4,797,427	12·8	44·2
1892	5,217,371	95,894	5,313,265	14·4	57·4
1893	5,877,891	95,386	5,973,277	17·5	57·7
1894	7,330,005	100,525	7,430,530	23·8	69·8
1895	7,170,506	142,894	7,313,400	23·5	68·8

* Amount of deposits at call unobtainable.

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Advances by Banks.

Under the head of advances are included bills and promissory notes discounted, cash credits, and miscellaneous debts. The bulk of advances made are secured by the mortgage of real estate or by the depositing of deeds over which the lending institution acquires a lien; the discounting of trade bills does not amount to more than 14 per cent of the total cash credits and overdrafts. The banking returns are in such a defective form that an account of the nature of advances made, and the class of security advanced against, cannot be given. The most interesting summary that can be made is that which the following table supplies:—

Year.	Advances.	Ratio of Advances to Deposits.	Amount of Advances per Inhabitant.
	£	per cent.	£ s. d.
1860	5,780,700	111·9	16 17 6
1865	7,100,361	121·8	17 15 0
1870	7,814,116	127·9	15 18 11
1875	12,483,713	91·4	21 17 1
1880	17,210,205	96·2	23 12 4
1885	31,344,909	117·4	33 16 1
1890	43,009,559	121·3	39 0 8
1891	45,068,914	126·4	39 8 3
1892	44,135,729	124·1	37 7 2
1893	40,024,354	124·5	33 0 4
1894	37,378,947	125·4	30 4 2
1895	36,030,529	121·1	28 12 0

The useful purpose which the banking system serves may be readily realised from the foregoing statement. The period extending from 1875 right on to 1885 was, on the whole, one of trade prosperity, and throughout those years the ratio of advances to deposits ranged between 91 and 117 per cent. Since 1885 New South Wales, in common with the other Colonies, has suffered more or less from depression, and the ratio of advances to deposits has stood considerably higher, viz., from 117 to 125 per cent.

Deposits in Banks.

The total amount of money deposited with the thirteen banks operating in New South Wales at the close of 1894 was approximately £107,840,764, and of this sum £29,792,793 was received locally. The excess of the total over local deposits was employed in the various countries to which the banks' business extended, some of course being used in New South Wales, but from the very nature of the transactions of the banks it is not possible to do more than make a surmise as to the amount so used. Dealing only with local deposits, the following state-

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ment shows the average amount of money deposited at various periods commencing with 1860; the distinction between interest-bearing deposits and those at call was first made in 1875:—

Year.	Deposits bearing Interest.	Deposits not bearing Interest.	Total Deposits.
	£	£	£
1860	.....	.....	5,164,011
1865	.....	.....	5,827,098
1870	.....	.....	6,107,999
1875	8,775,882	4,875,010	13,650,892
1880	11,948,383	5,934,641	17,883,024
1885	18,038,497	8,670,889	26,709,386
1890	25,395,600	10,064,518	35,460,118
1891	26,470,817	9,188,873	35,659,690
1892	26,357,083	9,207,109	35,564,192
1893	23,584,119	8,557,840	32,141,959
1894	20,380,032	9,412,761	29,792,793
1895	20,248,042	9,503,958	29,752,000

The deposits reached their highest level in 1891, when there was entrusted to the banks a total of £35,659,690; since the date mentioned deposits to the extent of nearly six millions have been withdrawn, the reduction being entirely in interest-bearing deposits, which were very largely withdrawn in 1893 at the time of the bank crisis, and during the succeeding year. The withdrawals in 1894 were probably due to a combination of circumstances. Previous stoppages of payments had made many timorous depositors withdraw their fixed deposits on maturity, and place the money in the savings banks, as is evidenced by the fact that the New South Wales and Post Office Savings Banks increased their deposits by over one million and a half during the year; while the capital called up by the banks themselves absorbed a considerable sum which would otherwise have remained on deposit. To these two causes which tended to decrease the money on deposit with the banks may be added a third—the withdrawal of money for hoarding. That this last must be considerable may be argued from the fact that the stock of gold in private hands was increased during 1893 by £1,003,473, and in 1894 by £321,793, while the gold needed for circulation probably decreased during those years.

The interest offering for fixed deposits has now fallen to 3½ per cent. for sums deposited for twelve months; for six months' deposits the interest allowed is at the rate of 2 per cent. The practice of allowing interest on money fixed for terms of less than six months was discontinued in May, 1894. The rates quoted, which were fixed on the 10th August, 1894, are much the lowest that have been offered since banks were first opened for business, and money equal to their requirements is freely offered. The following is a statement of the average rates for

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twelve months' deposits from 1860 onwards. The figures of the last three years do not include interest payable by reconstructed banks :—

Year.	Bank Interest on Deposits for twelve months.	Year.	Bank Interest on Deposits for twelve months.
	per cent.		per cent.
1860	5	1890	4½
1865	6	1891	4¾
1870	5	1892	5
1875	5¼	1893	4½
1880	5	1894	4¼
1885	5	1895	3½

Under normal conditions the annual rate of interest paid on fixed deposits is uniform for all banks, but the institutions which have undergone reconstruction are not in a position to vary the rates on a large proportion of the deposits, so that they are paying the ordinary market rate of 3½ per cent. on deposits received since reconstruction, while 4 and 4½ per cent. are being paid on the locked-up or extended deposits. The reconstructed banks have power to release their extended or locked-up deposits at any time on giving the necessary notice of their intention to do so, and the deposits when renewed are being accepted at the ordinary or reduced rate.

The liability to depositors of the reconstructed banks at the dates of suspension was £58,914,585; but up to the middle of 1895, £19,493,500 of the deposits had been liquidated, and £6,113,033 turned into preferential share capital and stocks, so that there are now deposits to the extent of £33,308,052 awaiting release. The complete statement of the deposit accounts of the thirteen banks operating at the middle of 1895 was as shown below :—

Banks.	Deposits.				
	Capitalised (Preferential Capital).	Invested in bank stocks.	Awaiting release.	At ordinary rates and current account.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
Bank of New South Wales	.....	.....	.....	17,343,588	17,343,588
Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney (Limited)	.....	.....	3,577,000	5,929,254	9,506,254
Australian Joint Stock Bank (Limited)	.....	391,119	6,848,107	1,281,021	8,520,247
City Bank of Sydney	.....	.....	.....	1,075,476	1,075,476
Commercial Bank of Australia (Limited)	2,112,060	.....	5,937,594	1,519,969	9,569,623
National Bank of Australasia (Limited)	305,780	.....	5,207,481	2,285,791	7,799,052
Queensland National Bank (Limited)	.....	50,447	6,358,973	2,251,991	8,661,411
Bank of North Queensland (Limited)	.....	.....	87,912	151,770	239,682
Bank of New Zealand	.....	.....	.....	7,222,202	7,222,202
Bank of Australasia	.....	.....	.....	12,706,772	12,706,772
Union Bank of Australia (Limited)	.....	.....	.....	17,055,564	17,055,564
London Bank of Australia (Limited)	171,930	.....	4,347,723	1,304,415	5,824,068
English, Scottish, and Australian Bank (Limited)	.....	3,081,697	943,262	950,764	4,975,723
Total	2,589,770	3,523,263	33,308,052	71,078,577	110,499,662

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Some of the reconstructed banks accept their own deposit receipts at face value in liquidation of debts owing to them, and in payment of calls where debtors are unable to pay cash. Holders of negotiable deposits, however, wishing to dispose in open market are obliged to accept prices from 6 to 36 per cent. below the face value, as will be seen in the subjoined table, which gives the rates offered for deposits of six banks. The Bank of North Queensland and the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney gave one month's notice during September and October, 1895, respectively, of their intention to release the balance of the locked-up deposits, and these institutions will be the first of the reconstructed banks to liquidate the whole of the old deposit liabilities. The prices here quoted are those ruling at the middle of December, 1895 :—

Bank.	Buying Price.		
	£	s.	d.
Australian Joint Stock Bank (Ltd.)	0	16	0
Commercial Bank of Australia (Ltd.)	0	16	6
National Bank of Australasia (Ltd.)	0	18	9
Queensland National Bank (Ltd.)	0	15	0
London Bank of Australia (Ltd.)	0	16	4
English, Scottish, and Australian Bank (Ltd.)	0	12	9

The overdraft and discount rates have been almost stationary during the last ten years, notwithstanding that the interest payable for money placed on fixed deposit has during the same period fallen from 5 to 3½ per cent. Under ordinary circumstances, discount and overdraft rates would have moved down with the interest rates paid to depositors; but it is evident from a consideration of the profit and loss accounts of the various institutions that the banks are not in a position to make any appreciable reduction in the discount rates, notwithstanding the easier terms upon which they themselves can borrow.

The rates for overdrafts and discounts for the eleven years ended 1895 were as follow :—

Year.	Overdraft Rates.	Discount Rates.	
		Bills at 3 months.	Bills over 3 months.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1885	9	6 to 7	8
1886	9	6 ,, 8	8 to 9
1887	8 to 9	6 ,, 8	7 ,, 9
1888	8 ,, 9	6 ,, 7	7 ,, 8
1889	9	7	8
1890	9	7	8
1891	9	7	8
1892	9	7	8
1893	8½ to 9	7	8
1894	7 ,, 9	6½ to 7	7 to 8
1895	7 ,, 8	6 ,, 6½	7

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The bank exchange rate on London, at 60 days' sight, averages about 1 per cent., but is subject to a good deal of fluctuation. During the height of the bank panic in May, 1893, it was 3½ per cent., the banks at that date requiring all their available assets for other purposes. The rates for the eleven years ended 1895 were :—

Year.	Exchange rate on London at 60 days sight.	
	Buying.	Selling.
	per cent.	per cent.
1885	99 to 100	100 to 100¾
1886	98½ ,, 100	100 ,, 101
1887	98½ ,, 100	100 ,, 100¾
1888	99½ ,, 100⅜	100¼ ,, 100⅞
1889	99½ ,, 100	100½ ,, 100⅞
1890	99⅜ ,, 100	100⅜ ,, 101¾
1891	99⅛ ,, 100	100⅛ ,, 100⅞
1892	99⅜ ,, 99⅞	100½ ,, 100⅝
1893	97 ,, 99¾	100½ ,, 100¾
1894	99½ ,, 99⅞	100½ ,, 100¾
1895	99½ ,, 99¾	100⅝ ,, 100¾

Banks' Exchange Settlement.

The Banks' Exchange Settlement Office, which was established in Sydney on the 18th January, 1894, is not a clearing house in the accepted term, as the exchanges are still effected daily at the banks by clerks of each institution; but the results of the daily operations are notified to the Secretary of the Banks' Exchange Settlement, who establishes the daily credit of each bank with the pool. The "Pool" is placed in the hands of three trustees, and consists of £700,000 in gold, which is deposited in locked boxes in the vaults of three of the banks, and cannot be circulated or disturbed. The contributions to the "Pool" are according to the volume of the operations of each bank. The Secretary notifies each bank daily of the amount of its credit with the "Pool," and no bank is permitted to allow its balance to continue below 25 per cent. of the fixed contribution. In the event of its credit reaching this margin, the bank is required to make up its deficiency with gold; this payment, however, is not made to the pool, but to such other banks as may happen to have at their credit with the pool a larger sum than is required by the agreement. This arrangement enables the £700,000 comprising the pool to remain intact. Country cheques are forwarded direct to the different country branches, and eventually are included in the balances

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due in Sydney between the various banks. The volume of the exchanges monthly during 1895 is shown in the following table:—

Period.	Amount of Exchanges.	Period.	Amount of Exchanges.
	£		£
Four weeks ending 28 Jan., 1895 ..	8,284,595	Four weeks ending 9 Sept., 1895..	7,797,436
,, 25 Feb., ,, ..	8,038,079	,, 7 Oct., ,, ..	8,874,126
,, 25 Mar., ,, ..	7,340,486	,, 4 Nov., ,, ..	9,938,180
,, 22 April, ,, ..	7,898,493	,, 2 Dec., ,, ..	10,291,350
,, 20 May, ,, ..	7,645,755	,, 30 Dec., ,, ..	9,660,263
,, 17 June, ,, ..	7,135,237		
,, 15 July, ,, ..	8,210,835	Total .....£	108,509,870
,, 12 Aug., ,, ..	7,395,035		

Note Circulation of Banks.

The issue of paper money is not at present limited by an enactment, the law regulating note issue having lapsed on the 9th October, 1895. Under the Stamp Duties' Act of 1880 a note tax of 2 per cent. is imposed on the average circulation of each bank within the Colony; this tax on the present issue yields a return of between £30,000 and £40,000 per annum. The note circulation of banking companies has been steadily declining, not only as compared with the population, but in actual volume. In 1885 there was an average of £1,793,686, representing about £1 18s. 8d. per inhabitant; while in 1895 the total had fallen to £1,122,125, and the average per inhabitant to 17s. 10d. In 1860 the note circulation was as much as £2 17s. 5d. per head, and in 1882, £2 1s. 10d. The following is a statement of the average note issue and bills in circulation at intervals since 1860:—

Year.	Notes in Circulation.	Bills in Circulation.	Total.	Average per Inhabitant.
	£	£	£	£
1860	949,849	62,505	1,012,354	2·95
1865	729,076	67,875	796,951	1·99
1870	695,366	50,515	745,881	1·52
1875	1,114,411	37,008	1,151,419	1·97
1880	1,260,772	51,698	1,312,470	1·80
1885	1,793,686	59,327	1,853,013	2·00
1890	1,557,805	127,442	1,685,247	1·53
1891	1,674,049	146,202	1,820,251	1·59
1892	1,439,872	104,223	1,544,095	1·30
1893	1,804,531	75,086	1,879,617	1·55
1894	1,235,989	146,911	1,382,900	1·12
1895	1,122,125	107,986	1,230,111	0·98

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The law does not require any special reserve to be maintained against bank notes, but, as already pointed out, the note issue is many times covered by the reserves; thus in September, 1895, the note issue stood at £1,122,125, while the gold in hand was £7,313,400.

The lowest value for which notes are issued is one pound, and the bulk of the issue is of this denomination. During the operation of the Bank Notes' Act of 1893, under which the issues of certain banks (twelve in number) were a first charge on their assets, and were legal tender throughout the Colony at all places except the head offices of the banks issuing, there was a special tax of 2½ per cent. on the average monthly issue. This tax was in substitution of the stamp duty of 2 per cent., and ceased with the lapse of the Act in October, 1895.

Working Expenses and Profits.

The published balance-sheets of banks as a rule give very meagre information of the results of their working, and with one exception it is impossible to ascertain the amount of the gross profits. In the matter of management expenses equal reticence is observed, not one bank whose head office is in the Colony giving this information to its shareholders. The net profits are therefore the only data on which a comparative statement can be based, and the ratio of such to paid-up capital and reserves, and to the banks' trading and total assets, will be found in the subjoined statement:—

Banks.	Net Profits for twelve months, 1894-5.	Ratio of Net Profits to—		
		Paid-up Capital and Reserves.	Total Trading Assets.	Total assets of all kinds.
	£	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
Bank of New South Wales	210,024	6·85	0·87	0·85
Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney (Limited)	103,405	5·23	0·88	0·85
Australian Joint Stock Bank (Limited)	50,776	4·21	0·52	0·50
City Bank of Sydney	36,092	7·21	2·41	2·21
Commercial Bank of Australia (Limited)	51,850	1·35	0·46	0·45
National Bank of Australasia (Limited)	48,954	2·61	0·49	0·47
Queensland National Bank (Limited)	93,801	12·71	0·96	0·93
Bank of North Queensland (Limited)	17,790	8·47	3·86	3·72
Bank of New Zealand	Nil.	....	....	....
Bank of Australasia	117,547	4·90	0·69	0·67
Union Bank of Australia (Limited)	111,013	4·44	0·50	0·49
London Bank of Australia (Limited)	21,705	1·54	0·28	0·27
English, Scottish, and Australian Bank (Limited)	*10,154	1·24	0·17	0·16

* Ten months.

Intimately connected with the question of profits is that of working expenses, and it must be confessed that the cost of working banking institutions in Australasia is undoubtedly large. This is partly due to

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the wide and sparsely populated area over which operations are carried on, and partly to the class of business in which banks are engaged. The following is a statement of the cost of management of the several banks enumerated :—

Bank.	Expenses of Management for twelve months, 1894–5.	
	Total.	Ratio to bank's resources (Paid-up Capital, Reserves, Deposits, and Note Circulation).
	£	per cent.
Bank of New South Wales	Not available.	
Commercial Banking Company of Sydney (Limited)		
Australian Joint Stock Bank (Limited)		
City Bank of Sydney		
Commercial Bank of Australia (Limited)	101,059	0·88
National Bank of Australasia (Limited)	115,711	1·20
Queensland National Bank (Limited)	80,946	0·86
Bank of North Queensland (Limited)	11,383	2·53
Bank of New Zealand	Not available.	
Bank of Australasia	220,174	1·42
Union Bank of Australia (Limited)	241,041	1·20
London Bank of Australia (Limited)	83,535	1·16
English, Scottish, and Australian Bank (Limited)	*81,880	1·40

* Ten months.

It will be observed that the expenses of working the four local banks and the Bank of New Zealand are not shown in the statement just given. These banks do not disclose even to their shareholders the details of their business, so that the reference to the cost of banking business is seriously incomplete; but taking such banks as are enumerated as a guide to the whole of the institutions, the total expenses of management of the thirteen banks which have offices in the Colony may be set down for the year 1894–5 at £1,585,000.

The following statement may be taken as approximately correct :—

Total trading assets	£142,803,920
Capital and reserves	23,648,791
Gross earnings, less reserve for bad and doubtful debts, and rebate on bills current	5,760,000
Gross expenditure, including interest	4,987,000
Net earnings	873,111

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Compared with the total assets, the net earnings represent 0·61 per cent., and compared with the banks' own resources, *i.e.*, capital and reserved profits, 3·7 per cent. The gross expenditure set down above may be divided into expenses of management, £1,585,000, and interest, £3,402,000; these together amount to 86·6 per cent. of the gross earnings, the management expenses being 27·6 per cent., and the interest 59·0 per cent. It would therefore appear that for every £1 of net earnings £1 16s. are spent in management expenses, and £3 18s. in interest. The cost of working banking institutions in Australia is undoubtedly very large; but this class of business is everywhere expensive, and an analysis of the balance-sheets of some twenty British banks shows that the expenses of management amount to nearly 16s. for every £1 of net earnings.

The year 1894 was in every way an unfortunate one for Australasian banks, and the figures just given must not be taken as the normal experience. For the year 1892, the following results were obtained :—

Total trading assets	£155,582,833
Capital and reserves	19,084,148
Gross earnings, less reserve for bad and doubtful debts	7,638,460
Gross expenditure, including interest	6,068,660
Net earnings	1,569,800

The net earnings equal 1·01 per cent. of total assets, and 8·23 per cent. of capital and reserves.

A recent return shows the results of the working of forty-one English and six Scotch banks during the year 1894, and for the sake of comparison the results of the banks doing business in New South Wales are presented in the same form :—

Head.	Forty-one English Banks.	Six Scotch Banks.	Thirteen New South Wales Banks.
	£	£	£
Capital and reserves	59,418,479	13,201,669	23,648,791
Earnings	4,064,084	934,816	873,111
Earnings, less 3% on capital	2,551,532	538,766	163,647
Deposits	309,729,077	81,144,917	29,752,000
Percentage on deposits	0·82	0·66	0·55

The net profits and the allotment of such under the accepted heads are given below. It will be noticed that in a few instances only have the reserve funds been strengthened; it should be stated, however, that

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two institutions have increased the reserve funds by premiums paid on new shares. The particulars are as follow :—

Bank.	Date of Balance Sheet.	Net Profits for half-year, including balance brought forward.				
		Half-yearly Dividend.		Amount transferred to Reserve Fund.	Amount Carried Forward.	Total.
		Rate per cent. per annum.	Amount.			
					£	£
Bank of New South Wales	30 Sept., 1895	9 6	84,436 100	Nil.	22,049	106,585 ....
Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney (Ltd.).	30 June, 1895	8	37,984	Nil.	14,488	52,472
Australian Joint Stock Bank (Ltd.)	30 June, 1895	4	22,675	1,500	2,164	26,339
City Bank of Sydney.....	30 June, 1895	5	10,000	Nil.	8,061	18,061
Commercial Bank of Australia (Ltd.).	30 June, 1895	Pref. nil. Ord. nil.	Nil.	Nil.	28,449	28,449
National Bank of Australasia (Ltd.)	31 Mar., 1895	Pref. 5 Ord. nil.	7,645 Nil.	7,859	3,440	18,944
Queensland National Bank (Ltd.).	30 June, 1895	3	11,278	Nil.	36,340	47,618
Bank of North Queensland (Ltd.).	30 June, 1895	Nil.	Nil.	7,000	2,763	9,763
Bank of New Zealand	31 Mar., 1895	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	....	....
Bank of Australasia	15 Oct., 1894	6	48,000	Nil.	9,641	57,641
Union Bank of Australia (Ltd.) ..	28 Feb., 1895	5	37,500	Nil.	14,093	51,593
London Bank of Australia (Ltd.)..	31 Dec., 1894	Pref. 5½. Ord. nil.	4,728 Nil.	Nil.	7,868	12,596
English, Scottish and Australian Bank (Ltd.)	30 June, 1894	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	10,154	10,154

Most of the banks have contrived to reduce their working expenses during the year 1894. This has been accomplished mainly by closing unprofitable branches, of which 209 have been closed during two years out of a total of 1,392 branches. There are seven institutions for which the expenses of management for 1892 and 1894 can be stated; these banks show a reduction in expenditure to the extent of 13 per cent.

The number of banks and branches open throughout New South Wales in 1895 was 450, or 54 less than in 1892; this gives a proportion of one bank or branch to every 2,800 persons. In England the proportion is one bank to 10,000 persons, and in Scotland one to every 4,000.

Dividends of Banks.

No feature of banking business was, until a few years ago, so conspicuous as the large dividends. The vast changes brought about by the bank crisis of 1893 materially interfered with the earning powers of banks, and of the thirteen operating in the Colony six were not able to declare a dividend on their ordinary share capital during the year 1894–5. A comparison between 1892–3—that is, the year before the

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crisis—and the year 1894–5 is afforded by the following table, which refers only to dividends paid on ordinary share capital :—

Banks.	Dividend per cent.	
	1892–3.	1894–5.
Bank of New South Wales	17½	9
Commercial Banking Company of Sydney (Limited)	25	8
Australian Joint Stock Bank (Limited)	15	4
City Bank of Sydney	10	5
Commercial Bank of Australia (Limited)	12½	Nil.
National Bank of Australasia (Limited)	12½	Nil.
Queensland National Bank (Limited)	10	3
Bank of North Queensland (Limited)	5	Nil.
Bank of New Zealand	5	Nil.
Bank of Australasia	12½	6
Union Bank of Australia (Limited)	12	5
London Bank of Australia (Limited)	8	Nil.
English, Scottish, and Australian Bank (Limited)		Nil.

As already pointed out, the condition of legislation in regard to banking is very unsatisfactory, and such legislation as exists is not uniform throughout Australasia. In October, 1895, the Premier of New South Wales, the Hon. G. H. Reid, invited the Governments of the other Colonies to join with him in drawing up a measure to make uniform the laws of the Colonies, and imposing such conditions on the business of banking as will win back the confidence of the public to sound institutions, which was undoubtedly seriously disturbed during the crisis of 1893. The Governments of the various Colonies expressed a desire that the drafting of the proposed Bill should be left in Mr. Reid's hands, and it is hoped the result will be that banking will be so regulated as to safeguard the public, and still leave the banks all necessary freedom.

Savings Banks.

The institutions classed as savings banks may be divided into two kinds—those worked in conjunction with the Post Office, and, consequently, directly administered by the State; and those under trustees, who are nominated by the Government. The declared objects of these banks are to encourage thrift in the working classes, and to provide a safe investment for the funds of charitable institutions, friendly societies, and such like. The savings banks have, however, become so popular that all classes of the community are represented among their depositors.

The Post Office or Government Savings Bank was established in 1871, and the Savings Bank of New South Wales as far back as 1832. The rate of interest in the former institution was reduced on the 1st October, 1894, from 4 to 3 per cent. per annum, except on moneys remaining to the credit of depositors for the full period of twelve months, on which 4 per cent. is allowed. At the close of the year 1894

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the funds of the bank amounted to £3,642,986, of which £3,633,925 represented deposits, and £9,061 profits accrued. The investments made by the Treasury on behalf of the bank were as follow:—

	£
Debentures	93,200
New South Wales Funded Stock	1,000,000
New South Wales Four per Cents.	296,467
Treasury Bills	979,000
Held by Treasury and Post Office Banks	1,274,319
Total	£3,642,986

The Savings Bank of New South Wales is administered by a managing trustee and nine ordinary trustees. Unlike the Post Office Savings Bank, the funds of this institution are applied to investments of a general nature, such as mortgages, Government and municipal securities, and deposits with banks of issue and the Treasury. The amount invested under each head, including interest accrued, at the close of 1894, and the average rate of interest obtained, were as follow:—

How invested.	Amount.	Average Rate of Interest charged.
	£	per cent.
Mortgages	1,183,502	5·81
Government and Municipal Securities	75,617	5·26
Treasury Bills	759,169	4·25
Fixed Deposits:—		
Banks of Issue	899,108	4·73
Treasury	787,499	4·14
Uninvested	116,790	.....
Total	3,821,685	4·91

The reserve fund and depreciation account on the 31st December, 1894, amounted to £238,268. According to the published statements of this institution, it could pay £1 1s. 3¾d. for every £1 liability. The classification of the deposits on the 1st January, 1895, was as follows:—

Classification.	Depositors.	Deposits.	Average per Depositor.		
	No.	£	£	s.	d.
£20 and under	36,688	164,360	4	9	7
Over £20 and under £50	9,624	311,597	32	7	6
£50 and under £100	7,448	522,682	70	3	6
£100 ,, £200	8,122	1,120,993	138	0	4
£200 ,, £300	5,332	1,133,921	212	13	3
£300 and upwards	298	329,522	1,105	15	7
Total	67,512	3,583,075	53	1	5

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Interest is allowed in the New South Wales Savings Bank at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum on accounts closed during any year. On accounts current at the close of a year a higher rate is allowed; this latter is not fixed, but it is usually 5 per cent. Both in the Post Office Savings Bank and in the New South Wales Savings Bank sums of 1s. and any multiple of that amount may be deposited; but with the exception of the funds of charitable institutions and friendly societies, deposits exceeding £200 do not bear interest on such excess. The bulk of the deposits over £200 probably belong to institutions of the classes mentioned.

During the year 1894 there was an increase of 10,580 in the number of depositors in the savings banks, and of £681,242 in the amount of the deposits. This increase was partly due to the extension of the Post Office system, under which there was an addition of 8,725 depositors and £400,636 in deposits, and partly to the withdrawal of money from the ordinary banks of issue. It may be pointed out that one of the results of the banking crisis was to force many depositors, who were fortunate enough to withdraw their money before the suspending institutions closed their doors, to seek others wherein to place their capital, and the Post Office Savings Bank considerably benefited by the changes made.

By comparing the annual figures giving the amount deposited per inhabitant, the increase will be found to be proportionately greater than that of the population. The number of depositors at the close of the last three years and the amount to their credit were as follow:—

Banks.	1892.		1893.		1894.	
	Depositors	Deposits.	Depositors	Deposits.	Depositors	Deposits.
	No.	£	No.	£	No.	£
Savings Bank of New South Wales	66,058	3,351,995	65,657	3,302,469	67,512	3,583,075
Post Office Banks...	101,668	2,354,086	114,070	3,233,289	122,795	3,633,925
Total	167,726	5,706,081	179,727	6,535,758	190,307	7,217,000

REGISTERED COMPANIES.

The Land, Building, Investment, and Trading Companies established with the object of making profit and doing general business, may be registered under the Companies Act of 1874; Benefit Building, Investment, Co-operative, and Industrial Societies, worked for the mutual benefit and advantage of the subscribing members only, may be registered under the Friendly Societies' Act of 1873; and Mining Companies in which the shares carry no liability fall under the No-liability Mining Companies' Act of 1881.

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The provisions of the Companies' Act are so framed that they are applicable to nearly all classes of financial institutions, very few of which are now carried on under special Acts. According to the records of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, there appeared to be about 602 companies whose registration stood good at the close of 1895, but it is believed that in this number are included some companies which have really passed out of existence without the formal and legal steps required by the Act being taken.

Registered companies are required to furnish their shareholders with a periodical balance-sheet, according to a prescribed form, and to forward to the Registrar an annual statement showing the share register and the transactions of the capital account. Besides this, companies registered subsequent to the year 1879, receiving money on deposit within the Colony, are required to furnish quarterly statements of the average assets and liabilities of their local business in the same manner as banking companies. Of the 602 companies in operation at the close of 1895, only 22 were returned as receiving money on deposit; the remaining companies, with an exception here and there, conduct their business on the subscribed capital alone.

The registrations under the Companies' Act for the five years ended 1894 were:—

Registrations.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
New Companies registered	121	109	74	73	90
Old Companies incorporated by Act of Parliament, registered under clause 224 of the Act, for purpose of winding-up	....	....	....	4	....
Companies wound-up	50	68	80	74	57
Declarations, statements, etc., that certain Companies have been defunct	...	....	74	156	57
Amount of fees received £	1,604	1,678	1,317	1,123	1,038

In the number of companies shown as wound up during 1893 and 1894 are included several defunct companies which have reconstructed, and in the number shown as having become defunct during the same two years are included many which ceased operations in previous years without notifying the Registrar at the proper time; still, after making all necessary allowances on these points, the two years mentioned show an unusually large number of winding-up notices.

During 1890 most of the deposit, land, building, and investment companies were presumed to be in a flourishing condition. Their dividends to shareholders were very large, and the rates allowed on deposits were considerably in excess of those current in the banks of issue. As might have been expected, the high interest offered was too tempting a bait to be resisted by a section of the investing public, and large sums were placed in these institutions with the utmost confidence that they would be available when required. This confidence, unfortunately, proved to

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be, in many instances, unmerited. The shrinkage of land values, and the depreciation of real estate generally, put an end to all unsound institutions working on speculative lines, as well as to some other companies that were conducted on reasonable principles. In August, 1891, three of these institutions suddenly suspended payment, and they were followed within a short time by others, several of which were placed in liquidation; while a considerable number of the existing institutions are now carrying on their business under the provisions of the Joint Stock Companies Arrangement Act of 1891, which was passed to afford relief to *bona fide* institutions which, through no fault of their own, became embarrassed. This Act expired on 1st January, 1896, but Parliament extended its operations until the 1st January, 1898.

The liabilities, assets, and paid-up capital of the twenty-two deposit companies, for the quarter ended June, 1895, were as follow:—

Companies.	Number.	Liabilities (exclusive of Liabilities to Shareholders).			Assets.			Paid-up Capital.
		Deposits.	Other Liabilities.	Total.	Landed Property.	Other Assets.	Total.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Investment	18	637,502	739,280	1,376,782	1,508,111	870,025	2,378,136	984,271
Trading	4	644,308	700,238	1,344,546	802,003	3,764,497	4,566,500	2,283,584
Total	22	1,281,810	1,439,518	2,721,328	2,310,114	4,634,522	6,944,636	3,267,855

The difficulties into which the deposit companies fell may for the most part be attributed to their practice of borrowing money for short periods, and locking it up for long terms. Besides this, however, many so-called building societies indulged in speculative land purchases, and having retailed the land at enhanced prices, with payments over extended periods, proceeded to divide the presumed profits among the shareholders, with a result that might easily have been foreseen, for in many cases the purchasers, after paying a few instalments toward the price, left the allotments on the hands of the companies, whose anticipated profits were therefore purely visionary, and whose dividends were really never earned, but, in many instances, were merely taken from the deposits.

Benefit Building and Investment Societies.

According to the provisions of the Friendly Societies Act of 1873, any number of persons may form themselves into a Benefit Building and Investment Society for the purpose of raising money by subscription to enable members to erect and purchase dwellings, etc., which must be

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secured to the society by mortgage until the amount of the shares has been fully paid. These institutions, as previously mentioned, are established solely for the benefit and advantage of the subscribing members, and their operations are, as a rule, confined to the subscriptions. There were, however, 10 institutions in 1895 receiving money on deposit from the general public, the aggregate amount of which was £554,730. At the close of 1895 the Benefit Building and Investment Societies which had been registered under the Friendly Societies Act numbered 127, of which only 34 were in operation at that date. Of the other institutions, some had ceased to exist through being Terminating Societies; others had become Limited Companies under the Companies Act, and consequently ceased to operate under the Friendly Societies Act; and a large number had become defunct.

Returns have been received from 26 of the 34 institutions operating; the societies which did not supply returns were institutions which have been recently established. The liabilities and assets, etc., of those from which returns were received were as follow for the year 1894–5:—

Societies.	Number.	Liabilities (exclusive of Liabilities to Shareholders).			Assets.			Paid-up Capital and Contingency Funds.
		Deposits.	Other Liabilities.	Total.	Advances.	Other Assets.	Total.	
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Starr-Bowkett	5	nil.	2,946	2,946	52,420	1,782	54,202	41,639
Building	4	12,014	27,097	39,111	59,860	3,475	63,335	23,966
Building and Investment.	10	314,547	9,105	323,652	785,159	73,255	858,414	512,296
Land, Building, and Investment.	7	228,169	13,676	241,845	391,505	102,281	493,786	231,294
Total	26	554,730	52,824	607,554	1,288,944	180,793	1,469,737	809,195

Co-operative Trading and Industrial Societies.

Particulars of these societies are given in the chapter of this volume dealing with Employment and Production.

No-Liability Mining Companies.

Under the No-Liability Mining Companies' Act of 1881, shareholders in any mining company registered under the Act are not liable to be sued for calls or contributions; if calls are made, shares on which they are not paid within twenty-one days after the expiration of the period fixed

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are forfeited. Companies registered under this Act are also subject to certain provisions of the Companies' Act of 1874. The total registrations during fourteen years were only 535; it would therefore appear that, in spite of the low registration fee of one shilling, the provisions of the Act are not very largely made use of. The registrations during the last five years were as follow:—

Year.	Registrations.
1890	73
1891	76
1892	43
1893	15
1894	25

Total Deposits in Banks and Investment Companies.

The amount of deposits at the end of each year since 1885 in the Banks of Issue, the Savings Banks, and the Building and Investment Companies is given in the subjoined table. The increase during the first eight years was rapid, not only absolutely, but also as compared with the increase in population; but during the last two years the amount per head fell below the amount shown for 1885. During the period of ten years embraced in the table the deposits increased from £31,697,936 to £38,846,333, the rate per head being £31 7s. 10d. in 1894 as compared with £34 3s. 8d. in 1885. Prior to 1887 no returns of building and investment companies were received, but for the years 1885–6 a sum of £1,500,000 is given as representing the deposits of these companies. The amount under each head on 31st December of each year was as follows:—

Year.	Deposits.				
	In Banks of Issue.	In Savings Banks.	In Building and Investment Companies.	Total.	Amount per head of Population.
	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1885	26,709,386	3,488,550	1,500,000	31,697,936	34 3 8
1886	28,428,253	3,504,803	1,500,000	33,433,056	34 9 9
1887	29,253,864	3,675,893	1,949,012	34,878,769	34 14 3
1888	31,917,311	4,037,675	2,442,065	38,397,051	37 1 6
1889	33,777,142	4,280,083	2,599,272	40,656,497	38 2 6
1890	35,460,118	4,730,469	3,199,554	43,390,141	39 7 7
1891	35,659,690	5,342,135	2,595,489	43,597,314	38 2 6
1892	35,564,192	5,706,081	2,082,223	43,352,496	36 13 10
1893	32,141,959	6,535,758	1,516,567	40,194,284	33 4 1
1894	29,792,793	7,217,000	1,836,540	38,846,333	31 7 10

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In the £1,836,540 deposits held by companies in 1894 is included £554,730 deposited in Benefit Building and Investment Societies registered under the Friendly Societies' Act. Similar information for previous years is not available.

TRADE MARKS.

The Trade Marks Act of 1865 provides for the registration of trade marks and for the prevention of the fraudulent marking of merchandise. During the thirty years the Act has been in force, 5,350 trade marks, or an average of 178 per annum, have been registered, the average of the last few years being considerably in excess of that for the whole period. More discrimination is now exercised in accepting designs submitted than formerly, and designs which apparently infringe on or too closely resemble others previously registered are systematically rejected. This greater stringency has had the effect of bringing the Act into greater favour. The registration of a trade mark does not confer any patent rights, but acts as a commercial safeguard and as an encouragement to manufacturers to produce goods of a superior quality.

The goods or manufactures which may be protected by trade marks are classified for the purposes of efficient registration into fifty main divisions; the fees, however, are the same for each class. The transactions under the Act and the fees received during each of the five years ended 1894 were as follow :—

Transactions.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Applications for trade marks.....	414	425	365	394	546
New trade marks granted	379	370	327	304	386
Trade marks transferred	34	34	19	63	94
,, refused and withdrawn	1	21	19	27	66
Amount of fees received .....£	1,241	1,233	1,103	1,071	1,430

The figures given do not wholly apply to registrations of local manufacturers, as trade marks, like patents, are unprotected in the Colony if not registered locally. The registration fees are a source of income to the State, as an application for registration costs three guineas, and a transfer of a trade mark one guinea; no charges are, however, made for applications withdrawn or refused. The fees collected during 1894 amounted to £1,430, or £392 more than those received for registrations under the Companies Act.

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MONEY ORDERS AND POSTAL NOTES.

The money order and postal note systems are worked in conjunction with the Post Office Savings Bank, the three constituting one of the sub-departments administered by the Postmaster-General. Under the money order system money may be transmitted from any part of New South Wales where an office is open to any part of the civilized world. The orders are sent either direct to the place of payment or through intermediary agencies, all places within New South Wales or the neighbouring Colonies being dealt with direct, while to places outside Australia the intermediary system is applied. Under the postal note system exchanges are effected between this Colony and Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania; but its original object was to afford means of transmitting amounts of £1 and under to places within the Colony. As regards small remittances within the Colony, the money order and postal note systems cover somewhat the same ground; but as the convenience both of sender and receiver is in favour of the postal note, it is anticipated that the money order system will be almost entirely confined to business of more than £1.

The money order system was adopted in January, 1863. In that year there were 3 orders issued for every 100 persons in the Colony, and the total value of the orders was £53,862; while in 1894 the number had risen to 35 per 100 inhabitants, and the total value to £1,315,637. The growth of the business has been mainly due to the extension of the sphere of operations, both locally and elsewhere, and to the greater appreciation of the system, especially by the wage-earning class of the community. Appended is a statement of the business transacted in 1894:—

Issued in New South Wales.			Drawn on New South Wales.		
Drawn on—	Number	Value.	Issued and paid in—	Number	Value.
		£			£
Australasia—			Australasia—		
New South Wales (Inland)	323,240	1,017,003	New South Wales (Inland)	323,240	*1,016,570
Victoria	32,952	95,173	Victoria	17,607	58,519
Queensland	27,796	42,254	Queensland	14,924	53,756
South Australia	9,428	29,309	South Australia	4,540	14,618
Western Australia	1,259	9,816	Western Australia	4,170	17,748
Tasmania	2,638	8,307	Tasmania	3,139	9,105
New Zealand	4,593	15,839	New Zealand	9,200	29,072
United Kingdom and Europe	24,776	74,594	United Kingdom and Europe	13,235	44,430
Germany (direct)	819	3,036	Germany (direct)	257	1,439
Italy (direct)	345	2,846	Italy (direct)	28	187
Canada	158	754	Canada	287	1,352
United States	1,530	4,426	United States	785	3,902
India	847	7,333	India	226	958
Ceylon	101	441	Ceylon	55	109
Straits Settlements	12	13	Straits Settlements	30	50
Hong Kong	762	3,849	Hong Kong	79	297
Cape of Good Hope	110	578	Cape of Good Hope	861	5,730
Mauritius	51	66	Mauritius	15	80
Total issued	431,417	1,315,637	Total drawn	392,678	1,257,922

* Excluding unpaid orders to the amount of £433.

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The following table covers a period of seven years, and distinguishes orders drawn on New South Wales from those drawn on other countries. It will be seen that the amount of money transmitted to countries outside New South Wales invariably exceeds the money received. In the months of August, September, and October large numbers of shearers are at work in various parts of the Colony; many of them are but temporary visitors, whose homes are in Victoria and other adjoining Colonies, and during their stay in New South Wales they transmit a portion of their earnings to their families, so that the balance of exchanges, so far as Victoria is concerned, is habitually against New South Wales. There is also a considerable remittance from the Colony to Great Britain and Ireland, representing aid sent to relatives. On the other hand, bread-winners belonging to New South Wales, but now seeking their fortune elsewhere, make remittances to their families who have remained behind; the principal remittances of this kind are received from Queensland, Western Australia, and the Cape of Good Hope:—

Year.	Issued in New South Wales.			Drawn on New South Wales.		
	Drawn on New South Wales.	Drawn on other Countries.	Total.	Issued and paid in New South Wales.	Issued in other Countries and paid in N.S.W.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1888	903,797	311,335	1,215,132	901,620	214,813	1,116,433
1889	890,501	297,726	1,188,227	890,513	217,585	1,108,098
1890	955,244	297,061	1,252,305	954,562	239,392	1,193,954
1891	1,236,425	341,319	1,577,744	1,233,191	285,796	1,518,987
1892	1,436,300	326,413	1,762,713	1,436,109	303,703	1,739,812
1893	1,266,691	349,194	1,615,885	1,269,889	286,349	1,556,238
1894	1,017,003	298,634	1,315,637	1,016,570	241,352	1,257,922

The system of postal notes has naturally caused a reduction of money-order business, but when full allowance is made on this score it will be found that there has been a considerable falling off in the number and amount of transactions since 1892; the same shrinkage is visible in almost every form of mercantile activity.

It is the practice of New South Wales to pay a commission to those countries to which money is transmitted in proportion to the amount of the orders forwarded to each, the rate of commission varying from ½ to 1

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per cent., and a similar allowance is made to the Colony by countries doing a return business. The amounts paid and received by the Colony on this account during the last five years were as follow :—

Year.	Paid.	Received.
	£	£
1890	2,759	2,644
1891	3,171	3,464
1892	2,392	2,066
1893	2,214	1,688
1894	1,890	1,445

Money orders drawn on places within Australasia are limited to £20, the commission ranging from 6d. to 2s. for local orders, and from 6d. to 4s. for orders on the other Colonies. On Canada, Ceylon, India, Germany, Italy, and the United States, the maximum sum for which an order may be obtained is also £20, and the charges vary from 1s. to 10s.; while on all other outside countries the limit is fixed at £10, and the commission at from 1s. to 5s. The total amount of commission collected from the public for each of the five years from 1890 to 1894 is given below, and against this amount is placed the excess of payments over receipts shown in the preceding table :—

Year.	Commission received.	Net Payments to Other Countries.	Net Collections.
	£	£	£
1890	16,939	115	16,824
1891	19,198	*293	19,491
1892	19,309	326	18,983
1893	19,038	526	18,512
1894	15,828	445	15,383

* Net receipts from other countries.

No allowance has been made for the stamp duty of 1d. charged on all orders issued in New South Wales, and of 2d. imposed on all orders of £2 and upwards paid in the Colony.

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Postal notes were first issued in New South Wales on the 1st October, 1893, under the authority of a special Act of the Legislature. The transactions during 1894 were as follow :—

Denomination.	Issued in New South Wales.		
	Drawn on—		Total.
	New South Wales (Inland).	Other Colonies.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1s. to 4s. 6d. inclusive	20,379 5 6	12,211 15 6	158,546 3 6
5s. to 10s. ,, ...	61,253 7 6		
10s. 6d. to 15s. ,, ...	19,839 15 0		
20s.	44,862 0 0		
Stamps affixed	761 7 7	98 6 3	859 13 10
Total .....£	147,095 15 7	12,310 1 9	159,405 17 4

Denomination.	Drawn on New South Wales.				
	Issued in—				Total.
	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Tasmania.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1s. to 4s. 6d. inclusive	747 18 6	516 4 6	215 18 6	67 4 0	1,547 5 6
5s. to 10s. ,, ...	1,600 0 0	766 10 0	300 12 6	84 7 6	2,751 10 0
10s. 6d. to 15s. ,, ...	576 19 6	258 10 6	110 3 6	22 7 0	968 0 6
20s.	2,964 0 0	963 0 0	322 0 0	127 0 0	4,376 0 0
Stamps affixed	29 0 8	19 4 0	11 6 11	2 6 6	61 18 1
Total .....£	5,917 18 8	2,523 9 0	960 1 5	303 5 0	9,704 14 1

No commission is paid by one Colony to another in respect of notes obtained for intercolonial use, but poundage is charged both by the Colony in which a note is issued and by that in which it is cashed. The poundage collected in New South Wales during the last quarter of 1893 was £549, and during the year 1894, £3,878. The notes range in value from 1s. to 20s., and the poundage payable thereon varies from 1d. to 4d., according to the following scale :—

Value of note.	Poundage.	Value of note.	Poundage.
s. d.	d.	s. d.	d.
1 0	1	5 0	2
1 6	1	7 6	2
2 0	1	10 0	3
2 6	1	15 0	3
3 0	1	20 0	4
4 0	1		

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INSURANCE.

There are no Acts of the New South Wales Parliament regulating the business of fire, life, and other forms of insurance, and local companies engaged in the business are either incorporated under special Acts or under the Companies Act. As the law does not require the publication of returns of the business transacted within the Colony, it is not customary for companies to disclose this information. The only figures available, therefore, are those relating to their whole business; but the cases are few in which a statement of the whole business of a company throws light on its operations in New South Wales. The inconvenience arising out of the state of the law in regard to insurance has been the subject of complaint by all companies seeking to transact business only on sound lines, especially those companies engaged in life insurance. No deposit or other guarantee of genuineness is required to be given, and it is open to any one to start a life office, the business transacted being only limited by the extent to which the credulity of the public may be abused. The evils in regard to fire companies are not so great as for life companies, as the risks taken are almost invariably for short periods; but they are sufficiently great to call for speedy remedy.

There were eighty-three companies, including the two Fire Underwriters' Associations, operating in the Colony during 1895; of these, only ten were local institutions. The number doing each class of business was as follows:—

Class of Business.	Head Office.				Paid-up Capital.
	In New South Wales.	In other Australasian Colonies.	Outside Australasia.	Total.	
					£
Life only	4	6	3	13	.....
Fire only	2	.....	7	9	1,176,183
Marine only	1	2	17	20	2,473,110
Fire and Life	.....	9	9	18	3,686,342
Fire and Marine	2	9	2	13	824,506
Fire and Guarantee	1	.....	.....	1	18,750
Fire and Accident	.....	.....	1	1	272,000
Fire, Life, and Marine	.....	.....	3	3	1,387,495
Fire, Marine, and Guarantee	.....	1	.....	1	75,000
Fire, Life, Marine, and Guarantee	.....	1	.....	1	125,000
Fire, Marine, Accident, Guarantee, and Plate Glass	.....	2	.....	2	68,908
Fire, Marine, Guarantee, Plate Glass, and Employers' Liability	.....	1	.....	1	15,582

The life assurance effected by the "Fire and Life" offices forms a very small proportion of their total business.

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Fire Insurance.

The amount of the net risks held in the metropolitan area is obtainable under the 15th clause of the Fire Brigades Act of 1884, which requires each company holding risks within the proclaimed area under the Fire Brigades Board to furnish annually to the Board the amount held at risk on the preceding 31st December within that area, less the sum re-insured with other contributory companies under the Act. This information, however, is for assessment purposes only, the companies being obliged to contribute one-third of the total annual expenditure of the Board, the sum subscribed by each being proportionate to the amount of net risks held within the said area. The total amount contributed by the companies towards the expenses of the Board during 1894 was £5,509. The net risks in the metropolitan area held by each company on the 31st December, 1894, were as follow :—

Name of Company.	Net amount at risk on 31st Dec., 1894.	Name of Company.	Net amount at risk on 31st Dec., 1894.
	£		£
Alliance Assurance Company	1,666,716	Netherlands India Sea and Fire Insurance Co.	111,610
Atlas Assurance Company	466,793	New Zealand Insurance Co.	2,061,386
Australian Alliance Assurance Co.	399,467	North British and Mercantile Insurance Co.	1,207,590
Australian Mutual Fire Insurance Co.	8,226,612	North Queensland Insurance Co. (Ltd.)	400,741
Batavia Sea and Fire Insurance Co.	228,510	Northern Assurance Company	740,598
Caledonian Insurance Co.	425,124	Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society	2,209,388
City Mutual Fire Insurance Co. (Ltd.)	3,031,474	Palatine Insurance Company (Ltd.)	460,120
Colonial Mutual Fire Insurance Co. (Ltd.)	1,081,890	Phœnix Assurance Co. of London	1,082,629
Commercial Union Assurance Co. (Ltd.)	5,972,905	Queensland Mutual Insurance Co. (Ltd.)	200,018
Cornwall Fire and Marine Insurance Co. (Ltd.)	312,186	Royal Insurance Co.	2,117,050
Derwent and Tamar Fire and Marine Insurance Co.	295,679	Royal Exchange Assurance Corporation	301,500
Guardian Fire and Life Assurance Co. (Ltd.)	579,244	Scottish Union and National Insurance Co.	430,849
Imperial Insurance Company of London (Ltd.)	1,406,471	South British Fire and Marine Insurance Co. of N.Z.	1,481,771
Indemnity Fire and Marine Insurance Company of Australia (Ltd.)	86,775	Standard Fire and Marine Insurance Co. of N.Z.	880,707
Lion Fire Insurance Co. (Ltd.)	266,689	Sun Insurance Office of London	792,720
Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Co.	2,588,813	United Insurance Co. (Ltd.)	4,136,770
London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Co.	1,357,731	United Australian Mutual Fire Insurance Co. (Ltd.)	485,486
Manchester Fire Assurance Co.	325,804	Victoria Insurance Co. (Ltd.)	1,546,350
Mercantile Mutual Insurance Co.	8,286,735	Fire Underwriters' Association of N.S.W. for Offices outside the Colony	345,985
Mutual Union Insurance Co. (Ltd.)	154,576		
National Fire and Marine Insurance Co. of N.Z.	1,186,684	Total £	59,940,096

In cases where insurances cannot be effected in New South Wales there is an arrangement with the Fire Underwriters' Association by which the proportionate amount of the assessment due to the Fire Brigades Board is paid by the insured.

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The declared amount of risks held in the metropolitan district since the Fire Brigades Act came into force was as undernoted. The figures refer to the 31st December in each year :—

1884	£36,691,000	1890	£58,207,183
1885	41,631,582	1891	58,415,945
1886	46,253,370	1892	61,185,715
1887	49,209,395	1893	59,844,701
1888	53,583,000	1894	59,340,096
1889	57,148,388		

The number of fires which occurred in the metropolitan district during the year 1894 was 270, which may be classified as follows, according to the damage done :—

Slight damage	206
Serious damage	23
Total destruction	41
Total	270

Besides these, there were 90 chimney fires, and 49 false alarms. One casualty which resulted fatally occurred during the year.

Of the premises totally destroyed, 24 were insured, 13 not insured, and in 4 cases the insurance was unknown. Of those in which serious damage was effected, 22 were insured, and 1 not insured; while of those coming under the head of slightly damaged, 100 were insured, 51 not insured, and in 55 instances the insurance was unknown; so that it would appear the total number of insurances was 146 as against 65 non-insurances, or 31 per cent. of the whole number for which information is available. The percentage just given must be taken with qualification; for as the premises and the property therein contained frequently belong to different persons, so in order to gauge the extent to which insurance is practised it would require to be ascertained in how many instances the double insurance was effected, for in the returns above given a property is considered insured if the premises be covered and the contents uninsured, and the converse is also the case.

The following is a statement of the fires which occurred in the metropolitan area during the past nine years :—

Years.	Slight damage.	Serious damage.	Total destruction.	Total fires.
1886	150	21	34	205
1887	174	18	15	207
1888	222	19	25	266
1889	179	17	29	225
1890	205	12	18	235
1891	216	27	19	262
1892	270	21	23	314
1893	210	23	25	258
1894	206	23	41	270

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Under clause 20 of the Fire Brigades Act authority is given to extend its provisions to the country districts; but owing to an ambiguous clause in the statute the fire insurance companies do not consider themselves called upon to contribute anything towards the maintenance of the country Boards, hence many of the municipalities have not taken any steps to come under the Act further than being gazetted. The country districts are served by volunteer fire companies, a return of which will be found in the subjoined table. Full particulars, similar to those given for the metropolitan district, cannot be obtained, and until the Act is made operative outside Sydney and suburbs correct returns will not be available.

The total number of firemen attached to the brigades in the metropolitan and country districts, and the number of fires attended, were as follow:—

Name of Station.	Number of—		Name of Station.	Number of—	
	Actual fires attended.	Men in the Brigades.		Actual fires attended.	Men in the Brigades.
City Companies—			Country Companies—*ctd.*		
Metropolitan Fire Brigades (4 stations).	270	57	Bourke	...	10
North City	61	12	Bowral	2	24
Paddington Brewery	83	18	Broken Hill	60	24
Standard Brewery	74	13	Carrington	1	21
Suburban Companies—			Deniliquin	2	20
Alexandria	20	17	Goulburn (2 stations)	4	25
Ashfield	22	17	Glen Innes	...	16
Balmain (2 stations)	9	...	Grafton	...	32
Burwood	8	17	Grafton, South	...	10
Drummoyne	5	18	Hamilton	7	18
Glebe	17	16	Hay	7	16
Granville	8	25	Lambton	3	19
Leichhardt	52	15	Lismore	3	16
Manly	Nil.	16	Maitland, West	2	25
North Botany	5	16	Moama	...	8
Paddington	28	22	Molong	...	15
Parramatta No. 1	4	20	Narrandera	1	15
Parramatta No. 2	4	23	Newcastle, Central	15	20
Rockdale	2	15	Newcastle, West	23	28
Randwick	Nil.	19	Nowra	1	15
Rookwood	1	22	Orange	4	12
St. Leonards (2 stations).	6	24	Parkes	3	20
Waterloo	13	16	Richmond	2	26
Waverley	8	16	Singleton	2	30
Woollahra	21	17	Stockton	4	25
Country Companies—			Tamworth	6	15
Albury	7	24	Temora	1	...
Armidale	1	18	Tighe's Hill	3	16
Bathurst	4	20	Wagga Wagga	...	20
			Wollongong	...	16

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Life Assurance.

Life assurance, in common with other forms of financial business, received a severe blow during the crisis of 1893, from the effects of which it has not yet recovered. Prior to the year named all forms of life business showed great expansion, but for the present this has given place to a struggle to maintain the position already acquired. Nor is this to be wondered at; the sudden stoppage of credit by the locking-up of deposits in banks drove many of the policy-holders to borrow on the security of their policies, and borrowing was too frequently the first step towards the surrender of the policy on the security of which the advance was made. The business of the last half of 1893 and of the whole of 1894 was in every respect abnormal; for it will be seen that, taking the whole of the companies together, the surrenders and forfeitures actually exceed the new business obtained. No class of investments feels more keenly the effects of trade depression than life assurance, and none more quickly brightens with the first signs of trade revival. In dealing with the falling away of insurance business, it should be borne in mind that a good many of the old policies are now falling in, and at the same time the field from which new policies are obtained is sensibly narrowing, as the Australian colonies have been thoroughly exploited for many years, while the insurable element of four and a half million people cannot be said to be large. Of late years, however, sundry new forms of insurance have been adopted, and the companies hope in this way to more readily attract the public when the hoped for revival sets in.

Special laws regulating the business of life assurance are in existence in every Colony except New South Wales; but they are by no means uniform, no two colonies having precisely the same law. During 1862 an Act was passed in New South Wales to encourage and protect life insurance, but its provisions in no way apply to the regulation of business.

On account of the absence of official returns, the particulars relating to the institutions are obtained from the reports published and circulated by the companies themselves; but, unfortunately, such statements do not allow of the business transacted locally being separated from that done elsewhere. During 1894 there were thirteen institutions operating in the Colony. Of these, four were local, six had their head offices in Victoria, and three in the United States. The volume of the local business of those last mentioned proportionately to the total is, however, so small that returns relating to the American offices have been omitted from the following comparisons, except where their local business can be stated. Twenty-three companies, uniting life with other classes of insurance, have local branches or agencies, but with one exception their transactions in life risks in the Colony are unimportant.

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Of the four local institutions, the Australian Mutual Provident Society and the Mutual Life Association of Australasia were incorporated under special Acts; and the City Mutual Life Assurance Society (Limited) and the Citizens' Life Assurance Company (Limited) were registered under the Companies Act, the former in 1878, and the latter in 1886. The six remaining institutions were incorporated in Victoria.

The results of the latest published actuarial investigations of the various societies were as follow:—

Institution.	Year when established.	Periods of Valuation.	Date.	Net or present Liability.	Surplus.
Head Office in New South Wales—				£	£
Australian Mutual Provident Society	1849	Annual.....	31 Dec., 1894	11,966,614	468,626
Mutual Life Association of Australasia.	1869	Triennial....	31 Dec., 1894	963,477	85,508
City Mutual Life Assurance Society (Limited).	1879	,, ...	31 Dec., 1894	168,128	9,991
Citizens' Life Assurance Company (Limited).	1886	Annual.....	31 Dec., 1894	40,498	12,527
Head Office in Victoria—					
Australian Alliance Assurance Company.	1862	Triennial....	31 Dec., 1894	279,915	18,874
National Mutual Life Association of Australasia.	1869	,, ...	30 Sept., 1892	1,124,430	133,460
Mutual Assurance Society of Victoria (Limited).	1870	Quinquennial	31 Dec., 1890	595,218	67,543
Australian Widows' Fund Life Assurance Society (Limited).	1871	,, ..	31 Oct., 1891	777,088	126,945
Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society (Limited).	1874	,, ..	31 Dec., 1894	1,552,396	226,198
Australian Temperance and General Mutual Life Assurance Society.	1876	,, ..	30 Sept., 1890	89,130	*9,207

* Includes proportion of surplus due to industrial business.

The net or present liability represents the present value of the sums assured in respect of whole life and endowment assurance, reversionary bonuses, endowments, and annuities in force at date of valuations, less the present value of the future pure premiums thereon. The surplus given represents the amount available for distribution amongst policy-holders, and actuarial and commercial reserves.

Eight of the companies are mutual, and the remainder are what is termed in insurance parlance "mixed"—that is, proprietary companies dividing profits with the policy-holders; while two of the institutions also transact industrial business, and one company, the Australian Alliance Assurance Company, conducts fire and marine insurance. The returns for each society, however, apply only to the ordinary life business. Most of the offices have representatives in all the seven colonies, and one institution—the Colonial Mutual—has extended its operations to London and South Africa.

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The following table gives the policies in force and the sums assured in each society at the close of 1894; the item "Sums assured" means the sums payable, exclusive of reversionary bonuses, at death, or on attaining a certain age or at death before that age:—

Institution.	Policies in force, inclusive of Annuities.	Sums Assured, exclusive of Bonuses and Annuities.	Annual Premium Income.
	No.	£	£
Australian Mutual Provident Society.....	121,473	39,510,130	1,293,387
Mutual Life Association of Australasia ...	16,734	4,166,359	139,700
City Mutual Life Assurance Society	5,201	776,946	26,891
Citizens' Life Assurance Company	7,202	845,984	34,092
Australian Alliance Assurance Company..	1,851	645,463	23,409
National Mutual Life Association	28,304	6,338,659	208,681
Mutual Assurance Society of Victoria.....	14,262	3,332,312	113,936
Australian Widows' Fund	20,365	4,555,968	166,079
Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society...	32,818	10,533,271	326,992
Australasian Temperance and General Life Assurance Society	5,256	812,370	31,163
*Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States	7,713	4,211,667	143,764
*Mutual Life Assurance Company of New York.....	1,692	1,253,462	53,083
*New York Life Insurance Company	2,435	1,665,068	92,480
Total.....	265,306	78,647,659	2,653,577

* Australasian business only.

The following table shows the business in force at the close of the year immediately preceding that of the crisis, the year of the crisis, and the period following. As was to be expected, the volume of assurances has decreased for nearly every society, and the results as disclosed by the figures afford another striking instance of the widespread distress

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following the events of 1893, the effects of which will be in evidence in the business of these and kindred institutions for some time to come.

Institution.	Amount Assured, excluding Bonuses and Annuities.		
	1892.	1893.	1894.
	£	£	£
Australian Mutual Provident Society	38,888,283	39,331,071	39,510,130
Mutual Life Association of Australasia.....	4,430,669	4,250,997	4,166,359
City Mutual Life Assurance Society (Ltd.).	719,999	751,242	776,946
Citizens Life Assurance Company	429,084	553,334	845,984
Australian Alliance Assurance Company ...	769,987	704,397	645,463
National Mutual Life Association of Victoria (Ltd.).	6,479,001	6,420,576	6,338,659
Mutual Assurance Society of Victoria (Ltd.)	3,665,517	3,504,652	3,332,312
Australian Widows' Fund Life Association Society (Ltd.).	4,939,075	4,727,701	4,555,968
Colonial Mutual Life Association Society (Ltd.).	10,827,028	10,702,936	10,533,271
Australasian Temperance and General Mutual Life Association Society (Ltd.)	827,566	813,500	812,370
* Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States.....	4,335,522	4,063,627	4,211,667
* Mutual Life Assurance Company of New York.....	1,107,258	1,160,366	1,253,462
* New York Life Insurance Company	1,883,765	1,643,535	1,665,068

* Australasian business only.

The following table gives a summary of the new business completed during the past six years by the ten Australian offices represented in New South Wales. The assurance and endowment policies only are dealt with, as the annuity transactions are unimportant:—

Year.	Policies.	Amount Assured.		Annual Premiums.	
		Total.	Per Policy.	Total.	Per £100 of Assurance.
	No.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1889	27,553	7,905,449	287	252,736	3 3 11
1890	28,840	8,420,670	292	274,614	3 5 3
1891	28,032	8,435,673	301	273,061	3 4 9
1892	27,965	7,977,154	285	262,647	3 5 10
1893	24,488	6,019,408	246	197,086	3 5 6
1894	25,721	6,062,494	236	202,315	3 6 9

It will be noticed that the average sum assured fell to £236 in 1894, while the annual premium for £100 is larger than for any of the other

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years shown. It would seem from these two facts that the depression of the past three years has had the effect of curtailing the insuring powers of the people; while the proportionate increase in the premium is accounted for by the growth of the endowment assurance business. At the present time 35 per cent. of the total assurance business is of this description, and it is evident that the combination of investment with insurance thus afforded has obtained a strong hold on the assuring public. The average sum assured per endowment policy is below that of the whole life policies, while the average annual premium is higher, as many of the policies are for short terms. The new assurances effected during the year, less the void business or discontinuances, represent the annual additions to the sums assured; this, or its opposite, is shown in the following comparison:—

Year.	New Assurances.	Void Business or Discontinuances.	Net yearly increase to sums assured.
	£	£	£
1891	8,435,673	5,096,730	3,338,943
1892	7,977,154	6,099,772	1,877,382
1893	6,019,408	6,218,360	*198,952
1894	6,062,494	6,305,437	*242,943

* Decrease.

The receipts of the societies are chiefly represented by the collections from premiums on policies and the interest arising from investments of the accumulated funds; while payments on account of policies matured and surrendered, cash bonuses, and expenses of management chiefly comprise the disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of each society during 1894 were as follow:—

Institution.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Excess Receipts (Addition to Funds).
	£	£	£
Australian Mutual Provident Society	1,970,489	1,489,835	480,654
Mutual Life Association of Australasia	195,228	148,714	46,514
City Mutual Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	34,018	20,878	13,140
Citizens' Life Assurance Company (Ltd.)	31,080	12,872	18,208
Australian Alliance Assurance Company	35,584	51,046	*15,462
National Mutual Life Association of Australasia	281,849	190,095	91,754
Mutual Assurance Society of Victoria (Ltd.)	159,391	115,864	43,527
Australian Widows' Fund Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	215,171	130,969	84,202
Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	392,483	261,155	131,328
Australian Temperance and General Mutual Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	38,304	19,893	18,411
Total	3,353,597	2,441,321	912,276

* Denotes decrease.

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The aggregate receipts and disbursements, under the accepted heads, for the ten institutions were as follow :—

Receipts.	£	Expenditure.	£
Premiums—		Claims	1,059,977
New	185,410	Surrenders	565,288
Renewal	2,110,603	Annuities	22,059
Consideration for Annuities	15,199	Cash Bonuses and Dividends	86,694
Interest	1,041,529	Expenses	440,566
Other Receipts (Rents, etc.)	856	Amount written off to Depreciation, Reserves, etc.	266,737
Total £	3,353,597	Total £	2,441,321

For the first time for many years the amount of interest earned and rents received was insufficient to meet the demands under the head of claims; the excess to be made good from the other sources, however, was small.

The yearly additions to the accumulated funds are largely dependent on the volume of assurances current, and any changes in the one are reflected in the figures of the other; it is, therefore, not surprising that coincident with the shrinkages in the volume of assurances in force, the amount added in each year to the accumulated funds has correspondingly fallen off. The amount of funds and the interest received thereon, for the five years ended with 1894, were as follow :—

Year.	Accumulated Funds.		Interest.	
	Additions during year.	Total Amount.	Amount received.	Average Rate realised.
	£	£	£	per cent.
1890	1,404,215	14,660,151	827,909	5·931
1891	1,380,553	16,040,704	902,774	5·881
1892	1,360,100	17,400,804	967,678	5·787
1893	1,147,143	18,547,947	991,369	5·515
1894	912,276	19,460,223	1,041,529	5·395

Assets and Liabilities of Assurance Companies.

The societies establish annually an asset and liability statement, with the object of showing the distribution of the accumulated funds and the amount placed to commercial reserve. The return is, however, in no way connected with the valuation balance-sheet prepared at the date

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of the actuarial investigation. The assets and liabilities for each institution, for the financial year of 1894, were as shown in the subjoined table:—

Institution.	Assets.			Liabilities.		
	Loans on Mortgages and Policies.	Government and Municipal Securities, Freehold Property, Cash on Deposit, etc., etc.	Total.	Assurance Endowment and Annuity Funds.	Paid-up Capital Reserve Funds, etc., etc.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Australian Mutual Provident Society	10,823,768	2,182,805	13,006,573	12,433,124	573,449	13,006,573
Mutual Life Association of Australasia	668,913	390,575	1,059,488	1,048,985	10,503	1,059,488
City Mutual Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	79,617	43,395	123,012	120,603	2,409	123,012
Citizens' Life Assurance Company (Ltd.)	28,177	25,966	54,143	53,024	1,119	54,143
Australian Alliance Assurance Company	344,009	228,820	572,829	283,163	289,666	572,829
National Mutual Life Association of Australasia	903,817	588,779	1,492,596	1,430,027	62,569	1,492,596
Mutual Assurance Society of Victoria (Ltd.)	611,986	300,835	912,821	896,138	16,683	912,821
Australian Widows' Fund Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	972,750	230,067	1,202,817	1,190,548	12,269	1,202,817
Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	976,143	823,850	1,799,993	1,793,629	6,364	1,799,993
Australian Temperance and General Mutual Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	141,413	99,416	240,829	167,844	34,207	202,051
Total	15,550,593	4,914,508	20,465,101	19,417,085	1,009,238	20,426,323

More than three-fourths of the total assets are represented by loans on mortgage; indeed, in these Colonies insurance companies are almost restricted to this form of investment, and to loans on policies. The remaining items require no special comment, except loans on personal security, and shares. Investments of this character are unusual in Australasia, the amount invested aggregating only £171,026. In some of the Colonies the companies are obliged by law to deposit certain sums with the Treasury as a guarantee of good faith, and the amount so lodged is included either under the head of Government securities or of deposits.

Expenses of Management of Assurance Companies.

The ratio of expenses of management to premium income and gross receipts must necessarily vary according to the age of the society and the proportion of new business transacted. The figures are given for what they are worth. That a more exact comparison cannot be made is

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the fault of certain companies which fail to make a complete disclosure of their affairs, and do not distribute their expenses of management so that the cost of new business may be distinguished from that of old business; the reports of other companies are unequalled in any part of the world:—

Institution.	Expenses of Management.		
	Amount.	Proportion to—	
		Premium Income.	Gross Receipts.
	£	per cent.	per cent.
Australian Mutual Provident Society	164,563	13·09	8·35
Mutual Life Association of Australasia	40,698	28·67	20·85
City Mutual Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	12,031	43·31	35·36
Citizens' Life Assurance Company (Ltd.)	8,157	28·43	26·24
Australian Alliance Assurance Company	4,130	17·61	11·61
National Mutual Life Association of Australasia	53,845	25·81	19·10
Mutual Assurance Society of Victoria (Ltd.)	32,938	28·65	20·66
Australian Widows' Fund Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	36,907	23·63	17·15
Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	79,391	26·00	20·23
Australian Temperance and General Mutual Life Assurance Society (Ltd.)	7,906	24·96	20·64

Assurance in various Countries.

The average amount assured per policy for each Colony, and for the United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States, is given in the following table. The Australasian business of the American institutions excluded from the previous returns has been included for the purpose of establishing the Australian averages shown herewith:—

Country.	Average sum assured per Policy.	Average Premium per £100 of Assurance.
	£	£ s. d.
Australasia	285	3 6 8
New South Wales	333	3 6 8
Victoria	270	3 7 5
Queensland	330	3 1 10
South Australia	247	3 7 2
Western Australia	372	3 2 11
Tasmania	263	3 9 2
New Zealand	265	3 3 4
United Kingdom	397	3 7 6
United States (New York only)	538	.....
Canada	296	.....

The average amount of assurance per head of population was, in Australasia, £20; in Canada, £11; in the United Kingdom, £13; and

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in the United States, £12; while the average number of policies per thousand of population was, in Australasia, 70; in Canada, 38; in the United Kingdom, 32; and in the United States, 23.

The average policy is scarcely a fair measure of thrift. In these Colonies mutual assurance is the rule, and members of the various societies have acquired large bonus additions. The average existing policy, including reversionary bonus, of the six Australasian companies which made actuarial investigations during 1894, was £348, as compared with the £285 shown in the comparative table.

It would seem that the practice of assuring life is much more prevalent in Australasia than in any of the other countries instanced; and although the average sum assured by each policy is less, the number of policies is so much greater, as compared with the population, that the amount assured per inhabitant is considerably higher.

BANKRUPTCY.

The present Bankruptcy Act came into force in January, 1888, superseding a system which made insolvency a very easy matter. It was expected that the new Act would give a healthier tone to trade, and decrease the number of cases in which debtors would have recourse to law to be relieved of their engagements. The result anticipated, however, has in no wise been realised, and bankruptcies are now just as numerous as formerly. In the seven years during which the present law has been in force, 9,195 petitions in bankruptcy have been received; of these, 7,931 were filed by the bankrupts themselves, and 1,264 on behalf of creditors. The petitions were not granted or were withdrawn in 315 cases, so that the total sequestrations actually made numbered 8,880. The following is a statement of the bankruptcy petitions for each of the seven years during which the present Bankruptcy Act has been in force.

Year.	Petitions in Bankruptcy.			Petitions withdrawn, refused, etc.	Sequestration Orders granted.
	Voluntary.	Compulsory.	Total.		
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1888	735	116	851	28	823
1889	935	166	1,101	39	1,062
1890	1,079	164	1,243	50	1,193
1891	1,016	222	1,238	49	1,189
1892	1,267	239	1,506	43	1,463
1893	1,535	209	1,744	59	1,685
1894	1,364	148	1,512	47	1,465
Total...	7,931	1,264	9,195	315	8,880

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A bankrupt may obtain his discharge in one of three ways—by the sequestration order made against him being annulled, by the release of his estate, or by a certificate of discharge being granted to him. The bulk of the certificates issued are obtained under the last-mentioned head; only one sequestration order has been annulled, and 47 estates have been released since the existing Act has been in force, while 1,028 certificates of discharge have been granted. The number of certificates issued from 1st January, 1888, to 31st December, 1894, was as follows:—

Year.	Sequestration Orders annulled.	Estates released.	Certificates of Discharge granted.	Total Certificates issued.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
1888	.....	1	26	27
1889	.....	14	114	128
1890	.....	4	95	99
1891	.....	3	309	312
1892	1	19	185	205
1893	.....	6	152	158
1894	.....	.....	147	147
Total	1	47	1,028	1,076

The number of estates in respect of which certificates of discharge or release were granted was 1,076, or 12 per cent. of the total sequestrations. In some few cases application is made for a certificate and refused; allowing for these, it would appear that out of 100 bankrupts 87 are unable or too indifferent to take the necessary steps to free themselves from bankruptcy. Under the law the property of an uncertificated bankrupt, even if acquired subsequently to sequestration, is liable to seizure on behalf of unsatisfied creditors; and as applications for certificates of discharge are the exception rather than the rule, it would appear that the great majority of bankrupts neither attain nor hope to attain a position in which they are likely to be disturbed by unsatisfied creditors. Before a certificate is granted all fees owing to the Court and official assignees must be paid, and it is certain that not a few who elect to remain uncertificated do so in order to avoid payment of these fees. The number of sequestrations during the seven years the Act has been in force was 8,880, and of these 7,804 remain uncertificated. During 1894 the total number of sequestrations was 1,465; the liabilities, according to bankrupts' schedules, were £1,852,235; and the assets amounted to £995,935. The qualification "according to bank-

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rupts' schedules" is necessary, as the returns of assets and liabilities established after investigation by the Court differ widely from those furnished by bankrupts:—

Year.	Sequestrations.	Nominal—		
		Liabilities.	Assets.	Deficiency.
	No.	£	£	£
1888	823	659,307	459,677	199,630
1889	1,062	794,603	396,723	397,880
1890	1,193	1,203,685	540,726	662,959
1891	1,189	989,778	454,211	535,567
1892	1,463	2,035,316	793,045	1,242,271
1893	1,685	1,527,985	905,763	622,222
1894	1,465	1,852,235	995,935	856,300
Total	8,880	9,062,909	4,546,080	4,516,829

The dividend rates paid in the £ on the amount of proved liabilities of estates which have been wound up are not given, as to establish such would involve an investigation of the transactions in each estate; and even this operation would not result in complete returns being established, as there are many estates which remain unsettled over a long period of years. There are three official assignees to assist the Court in winding up the estates. Each official pays all money received by him to the Registrar in Bankruptcy, who places the amount to the credit of the Bankruptcy Estates Account, from which all charges, fees, and dividends are met. The official assignees are also required to furnish quarterly statements of the transactions in each estate during that period, and the figures given in the two statements following were obtained from these returns. The charges under each head were:—

Year.	Peremptory Charges.		Legal Costs.	Paid into Consolidated Revenue.		Commission to Official Assignees.	Total Charges.
	Auction.	Rent, Valuation, Labour, etc.		Court Fees.	Percentage.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1890	4,268	9,613	3,064	70	382	3,443	20,840
1891	3,019	18,439	6,202	1,508	726	5,386	35,280
1892	3,692	10,350	7,192	1,582	891	5,581	29,288
1893	3,952	13,743	7,133	1,473	652	5,691	32,644
1894	3,571	18,308	7,139	1,528	1,143	8,610	40,299

The official assignees receive 2½ per cent. on the amount realised, and a similar rate on the amount of dividends declared; in addition to

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this the Judge may grant special remuneration. The dividends paid and the undivided balances at the end of each year were as follow :—

Year.	Dividends Paid.	Money in hands of Official Assignees.		Balance of Bankruptcy Estates Account.
		Unpaid and unclaimed Balances.	Unpaid Dividends.	
	£	£	£	£
1890	26,289	1,987	287	22,037
1891	52,304	1,449	432	21,651
1892	45,084	1,145	591	20,284
1893	40,433	9,532	132	27,287
1894	70,381	863	305	30,985

On the 31st December, 1894, there remained to the credit of the Bankruptcy Unclaimed Dividend Fund £2,713, and to the Bankruptcy Suitors Fund, to which account interest earned by the Unclaimed Dividend Fund is placed, the sum of £218.

District Registrars in Bankruptcy have been appointed throughout the Colony, and in most instances the positions are filled by Police Magistrates or other court officials. District Registrars have the same powers and jurisdiction as the Registrar in respect to examinations of bankrupts, and the technical business of the court. The estates sequestrated during 1894 in the Metropolitan and Country districts numbered :—

Sydney and Suburbs	616
Country	849
Total	1,465

The following table gives the callings of persons becoming bankrupt during 1894; no trade, however, is recorded which showed less than 10 bankrupts :—

Calling.	No.	Calling.	No.	Calling.	No.
Agents	28	Dealers	17	Miners	150
Bakers	21	Drapers	10	Painters	15
Blacksmiths	21	Engineers	16	Produce Merchants	11
Boarding Housekeepers	17	Farmers	116	Saddlers	10
Boot and Shoe Makers	16	Firemen	10	Store and Shopkeepers	41
Builders	27	Fruiterers	10	Tailors	25
Butchers	27	Graziers	26	Others (Sequestrations under 10)	485
Carpenters	22	Grocers	11		
Carriage Builders	13	Hawkers	10		
Clerks	34	Labourers	177	Total	1,465
Commercial Travellers	10	Licensed Victuallers	81		
Contractors	48	Merchants	10		

The foregoing pages deal with the commercial aspect of bankruptcy; other information relating to legal procedure will be found in the chapter of this volume dealing with the transactions of the Law Courts.

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TRANSACTIONS IN REAL ESTATE.

The Real Property Act came into force in 1862, dealings in real estate before that year having been regulated by the Deeds Registration Act of 1843. The Real Property Act completely revolutionised the procedure in regard to land transfers, and was modelled on the lines of legislation in South Australia adopted at the instance of Sir R. R. Torrens—hence the popular name of Torrens' Act. The chief features of the Act are the transferring of real property by registration of title instead of by deeds; the absolute indefeasibility of the title when registered; and the protection afforded to owners against possessory claims, as a title issued under the Act stands good notwithstanding any length of adverse possession. From the passing of Torrens' Act all lands sold by the Crown were conveyed to the purchasers under its provisions, and the provisions of the old law were restricted to transactions in respect of grants already issued. The area for which grants under the old system had been issued in 1862 was 7,478,794 acres; since then 1,150,115 acres have been brought under the provisions of Torrens' Act, so that the area still under the Deeds Registration Act is 6,328,679 acres. Lands are allowed to be placed under Torrens' Act only when their titles are found to be unchallengeable; but thousands of acres are brought under the Act during the course of every year, so that it is merely a question of time when the whole of the lands of the Colony will be under a uniform system. The area of Crown lands conveyed and of private lands brought under the Real Property Act during the decade ended 1894 was as follows:—

Year.	Crown Lands conveyed under the Act.		Private Lands brought under the Real Property Act.		Total.	
	Area.	Value.	Area.	Value.	Area.	Value.
	acres.	£	acres.	£	acres.	£
1885	503,565	666,169	31,230	1,157,000	534,795	1,823,169
1886	399,287	562,960	14,065	723,641	413,352	1,286,601
1887	382,649	470,661	47,318	1,140,155	429,967	1,610,816
1888	318,875	421,058	62,085	1,840,008	380,960	2,261,066
1889	355,331	512,238	45,309	1,348,812	400,640	1,861,050
1890	194,953	336,369	79,675	1,068,348	274,628	1,404,717
1891	279,247	403,421	51,145	1,163,044	330,392	1,566,465
1892	189,990	301,165	83,627	1,243,890	273,617	1,545,055
1893	253,941	306,842	44,999	962,413	298,940	1,269,255
1894	267,730	485,006	45,756	808,234	313,486	1,293,240

For the whole period during which the Real Property Act (Torrens') has been in operation, 16,653,998 acres, valued at £19,126,944, have

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been conveyed under its provisions, and 1,150,115 acres, valued at £18,845,947, have been brought under it, and deeds under the old Act to the same extent cancelled.

The transfers and conveyances of private lands which take place during ordinary years indicate in some measure the condition of business; the volume of these transactions, however, in some years cannot be relied upon as giving more than an indication of speculation or inflation. In the following table, which covers ten years, there is shown the consideration money paid on sales of private lands during each year, excluding, of course, lands sold on long terms. During 1888 land to the value of £11,068,873 changed hands, but in 1894 the amount had fallen to £3,994,504. The year 1888 marked the last flickering of the boom period, when land speculation proceeded on a scale of unexampled recklessness. Now the other extreme has been reached, and the transactions in land very largely represent conveyances by mortgagors and mortgagees, genuine speculation in land having almost wholly died out:—

Year.	Conveyances or Transfers.		
	Under Old System.	Under New System.	Total.
	£	£	£
1885	5,245,422	3,164,734	8,410,156
1886	4,085,990	3,060,244	7,146,234
1887	3,598,034	2,784,853	6,382,887
1888	5,893,373	5,175,500	11,068,873
1889	4,169,822	3,333,411	7,503,233
1890	3,954,358	3,600,392	7,554,750
1891	4,564,285	3,602,082	8,166,367
1892	3,537,829	2,716,379	6,254,208
1893	2,317,777	2,532,211	4,849,988
1894	1,945,527	2,048,977	3,994,504

As already mentioned, the Real Property Act provides that on the issue of a certificate the title of the person named on the certificate is indefeasible. Provision is, however, made for error in transfer, by which persons might be deprived of their rightful property, as should the transfer be made to the wrong person the holder of the certificate cannot be dispossessed of his property unless he has acted fraudulently. To indemnify the Government for compensating persons who, through error, may have been deprived of their properties, an assurance fund has been created by a contribution of one halfpenny in the pound on

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the declared capital value being levied on property first brought under the Act, and upon transmissions of titles of estates of deceased proprietors. It is an undeniable proof of the value of the Act and the facility of its working that payments from the assurance fund to the 31st December, 1894, in respect of titles improperly granted, amounted to only £2,903. The amounts paid into the Treasury on account of the assurance fund during each of the four years ended 1894 were as follow:—

Year.	Collections, less Refunds.	Compensation and Cost of Legal Actions.	Amounts Credited to Fund.
	£	£	£
1891	5,345	Nil	5,345
1892	4,670	1,053	3,617
1893	4,083	Nil	4,083
1894	4,882	367	4,515

The assurance fund, which forms part of the Trust Fund of the Treasury, amounted to £134,850 at the close of 1894, and bears interest at rates varying from 3 to 5 per cent. The accretions to this fund, that is, interest and collections, average from £8,000 to £9,000 per annum, while the total withdrawals during the whole currency of the Act have not reached £3,000; thus, as there is every likelihood of the amount annually added growing larger as years roll on, the fund bids fair to reach considerable dimensions.

MORTGAGES.

All mortgages, except those regulated by the Bills of Sale Act of 1855 and the Merchant Shipping Act of 1894, are registered at the Registrar-General's Office, and it is a fair assumption that the number recorded represents the bulk of the mortgages effected. Where more than one mortgage has been effected on the same property, the mortgages take priority according to the time of registration, and not in accordance with their respective dates. The amount of consideration for which a mortgage stands as security is not always stated in the deeds, the words "valuable consideration" or "cash credit" being inserted instead of a specific sum in many of the transactions of banks and other loan institutions, in cases where the advances made are liable to fluctuation; and as this frequently occurs when the property mortgaged is of great value, an exact statement of the total advances against mortgages cannot be

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given. It must be borne in mind, therefore, that the figures in the tables given below refer only to cases in whch a specific amount is stated in the deeds, whether that amount be the sum actually advanced or not. What is true of mortgages registered holds good for discharges, the amount of which, as shown in the tables, is still further reduced by the exclusion of mortgages which have been satisfied by foreclosure or seizure, a record of which is not available. Many mortgages, therefore, appear in the official records as current, notwithstanding that the property which they represent has passed away from the mortgagor.

Mortgages of Real Estate.

Mortgages of land are registered either under the Deeds Registration Act of 1843 or the Real Property Act of 1862, according to the Act under which the title of the property stood at the time of registration. The mortgages registered for each of the ten years ended 1894 were :—

Year.	Registrations—					
	Under Deeds Registration Act.		Under Real Property Act.		Under both Acts.	
	Number.	Consideration.	Number.	Consideration.	Number.	Consideration.
		£		£		£
1885	7,618	11,360,108	4,043	6,085,380	11,661	17,445,488
1886	6,933	7,570,210	4,295	5,975,898	11,228	13,546,108
1887	6,108	5,869,302	4,239	6,930,665	10,347	12,799,967
1888	7,452	8,765,109	4,274	7,520,914	11,726	16,286,023
1889	9,312	7,277,334	4,416	7,256,931	13,728	14,534,265
1890	9,883	8,072,218	4,697	8,559,662	14,580	16,631,880
1891	10,348	10,520,261	4,523	8,535,876	14,871	19,056,137
1892	10,450	9,328,563	4,644	6,770,594	15,094	16,099,157
1893	9,351	7,434,029	4,704	6,034,324	14,055	13,468,353
1894	8,901	5,824,797	4,277	5,624,968	13,178	11,449,765

The consideration given generally represents the principal owing; in some cases, however, it stands for the limit within which clients of banks and other loan institutions are entitled to draw, though many of these clients may be in credit while their property is mortgaged and unreleased.

The amount of mortgages discharged has always been much less than the amount registered, for, as previously mentioned, the discharges do not include foreclosures, which if not formally registered as discharges are nevertheless mortgages cancelled. The volume of the releases is also reduced by mortgages paid off in instalments, as the discharges may be given for the last sum paid, which might happen to bear a very

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small proportion to the total sum borrowed; and, further, the total of discharges is reduced owing to the practice, now largely followed, of allowing mortgages maturing on fixed dates to be extended for an indefinite period.

Conveyances under mortgage or purchases of equity of redemption, and transfers which represent dealings between mortgagee and mortgagee, are, in point of value, unimportant; nevertheless, to complete the transactions in mortgages, returns covering the period of ten years ended 1894 are given below. The table is incomplete, as the consideration in respect of conveyances and transfers under the Real Property Act cannot be given :—

Year.	Deeds Registration Act of 1843.				Conveyances and Transfers under Real Property Act.
	Conveyances.		Transfers.		
	Number.	Consideration.	Number.	Consideration.	Number.
		£		£	
1885	122	122,951	160	247,320	135
1886	195	122,479	138	261,778	166
1887	297	143,674	240	501,621	168
1888	192	378,662	276	829,753	189
1889	204	680,240	83	38,690	192
1890	117	88,116	210	229,010	180
1891	348	245,111	246	390,243	218
1892	392	162,307	253	1,219,401	255
1893	430	216,925	383	276,507	347
1894	374	381,738	508	485,489	318

Mortgages on Live Stock and Wool.

Liens on wool, mortgages on live stock, and liens on growing crops are registered under special Acts, the two first mentioned under a measure passed in 1847, and the liens on growing crops under one passed in 1862. The mortgages on live stock are current till discharge, while the liens mature at the end of each season and terminate without being formally discharged. Mortgages under each Act are valid without the stock or crops being delivered to the mortgagees. The figures relating to live stock are given in some detail, as they throw considerable light on the condition of the great industry of the country. They must, however, be taken with this qualification, that the amount stated represents in many cases merely nominal indebtedness, and the advances are not in every instance made to persons financially embarrassed. But with full allowance on this score, the figures given hereunder will make it plain how large a hold the lending institutions have upon the

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great pastoral industry. The following statement shows the liens on wool and the mortgages on live stock registered during each of the ten years ended 1894 :—

Year.	Preferable Liens on Wool.			Mortgages on Live Stock.				
	Number.	No. of Sheep.	Consideration.	Number.	No. of Sheep.	No. of Horned Cattle.	No. of Horses.	Consideration.
			£					£
1885	1,236	5,263,407	1,327,214	1,431	4,730,233	117,241	10,764	2,962,471
1886	1,187	9,049,194	1,454,154	1,363	4,323,553	79,616	10,349	2,404,813
1887	1,285	9,296,975	1,685,655	1,563	3,954,286	79,312	11,464	2,054,785
1888	1,174	9,800,520	1,282,125	1,998	4,002,148	80,120	12,364	2,003,216
1889	1,169	7,861,233	1,282,065	2,018	4,572,477	100,026	11,824	2,432,704
1890	1,461	9,005,582	1,562,270	2,230	4,962,300	93,298	12,543	3,159,636
1891	1,701	10,201,412	1,320,823	2,328	6,896,947	111,432	16,728	2,632,758
1892	2,051	12,094,876	1,688,061	2,326	5,966,971	142,695	16,904	2,814,637
1893	2,257	13,204,407	1,935,660	2,270	8,357,014	227,531	24,241	*3,176,725
1894	2,627	16,084,929	1,952,451	2,167	6,586,711	698,448	18,029	*2,059,381

* Included in the amounts for 1893 and 1894 is the consideration for 245 and 22 camels respectively.

To supplement the information just given, the following table, which shows the proportion of the flocks of the Colony covered by lien and mortgage, has been compiled. In addition to the numbers given, a considerable quantity of stock is in the hands of financial institutions as mortgagees in possession, but an exact statement of this it is not possible to obtain :—

Year.	Sheep.			Horned Cattle.			Horses.		
	Total in Colony.	Involved in Lien and Mortgage.	Proportion involved to total flocks.	Total in Colony.	Involved in Mortgage.	Proportion involved to total herds.	Total in Colony.	Involved in Mortgage.	Proportion involved to total number.
	No.	No.	per cent.	No.	No.	per cent.	No.	No.	per cent.
1885	37,820,906	9,993,640	26·4	1,317,315	117,241	8·9	344,697	10,764	3·1
1886	39,169,304	13,372,747	34·1	1,367,844	79,616	5·8	361,663	10,349	2·9
1887	46,965,152	13,251,261	28·2	1,575,487	79,312	5·0	390,609	11,464	2·9
1888	46,503,469	13,802,068	29·7	1,622,907	80,120	4·9	411,368	12,364	3·0
1889	50,106,768	12,433,710	24·8	1,741,592	100,026	5·7	430,777	11,824	2·7
1890	55,986,431	13,967,882	24·9	2,091,229	93,298	4·5	444,163	12,543	2·8
1891	61,831,416	17,098,359	27·7	2,128,838	111,432	5·2	469,647	16,728	3·6
1892	58,080,114	18,061,847	31·1	2,221,459	142,695	6·4	484,309	16,904	3·5
1893	56,980,688	21,561,421	37·8	2,269,852	227,531	10·0	493,231	24,241	4·9
1894	56,977,270	22,671,040	39·8	2,465,411	698,448	28·3	518,181	18,029	3·5

The mortgages shown represent the annual registrations; hence the sheep involved were those pledged during 12 months only, and as the currency of a mortgage on live stock, unlike that of a lien, which terminates at the end of the season, is variable, it follows that the figures in any year do not represent the total number of sheep covered

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by mortgage, and that the proportion of the flocks held under lien and mortgage, after making every allowance for releases, is therefore somewhat higher than that stated. This remark applies equally to the figures given for horned cattle and horses.

Discharges of Mortgages.

The discharges registered amount in an ordinary year to about one-sixth the mortgages of live stock registered. The figures for ten years ended 1894 were:—

Year.	Number.	Amount.	Year.	Number.	Amount.
		£			£
1885	208	1,173,673	1890	368	2,512,551
1886	150	849,742	1891	380	1,184,372
1887	210	1,073,674	1892	317	985,048
1888	240	1,160,307	1893	286	1,062,827
1889	256	1,191,089	1894	334	496,041

There were also 39 discharges of liens amounting to £45,624; these represent transfers of security and repayments during the season, as liens terminate by effluxion of time at the close of the wool season.

Liens on Growing Crops.

Under the provisions of the Act, liens on agricultural and horticultural produce, the duration of which must not exceed one year, are made. Such advances do not ordinarily reach large sums either individually or in their total, as there is an element of uncertainty in the security offered. During the last ten years the advances ranged from £67,379 to £247,466 per annum. The liens registered in 1894 were 2,291 in number, covering advances to the extent of £181,432:—

Year.	Number.	Consideration.	Year.	Number.	Consideration.
		£			£
1885	857	71,153	1890	1,089	75,439
1886	989	70,212	1891	1,171	78,448
1887	949	67,379	1892	1,416	130,155
1888	1,006	247,466	1893	1,789	159,007
1889	1,227	83,748	1894	2,291	181,432

Of the total registrations it is estimated that 40 per cent. are effected on sugar-cane crops.

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Mortgages on Ships.

Mortgages of registered British vessels are dealt with under the Merchant Shipping Act of 1894. The mortgages are, according to the Act, divided into two classes, one in which the ship is the sole security, and the other in which the advances are made on the security of what is termed in the Act "the account current," which may comprise ships, wharfage appliances, etc. Registrations are effected at the two ports of registry, Sydney and Newcastle; the returns given in the subjoined statement, however, apply only to the former port :—

Year.	Mortgage on ships only.				Mortgage on account current.			
	Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.		Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
		£		£		£		£
1891	32	17,777	6	2,472	4	3,672	8	8,800
1892	34	17,971	8	16,675	17	51,293	6	10,000
1893	22	12,882	10	6,681	11	315	15	3,019
1894	34	11,420	18	12,427	4	1,855	7	16,600
1895	22	8,896	9	4,617	9	900	11	14,350

The number of mortgages registered in which ships figure as the sole security represents the vessels encumbered, that is to say, "one ship one mortgage"; the number of mortgages in the other class may or may not represent the number of vessels mortgaged. The discharges of mortgage during the same period were as follow :—

Year.	Mortgage on ships only.				Mortgage on account current.			
	Sailing vessels.		Steam vessels.		Sailing vessels.		Steam vessels.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
		£		£		£		£
1891	13	8,052	9	8,754	3	No amount	7	12,400
1892	21	9,219	5	2,968	6	2,717	2	872
1893	20	13,962	4	12,866	1	No amount	2	90
1894	13	5,948	11	9,725	1	do	nil.	nil.
1895	24	9,638	6	8,364	3	do	8	1,000

Bills of Sale.

All mortgages in personalty other than ships and shipping appliances, wool, live stock, and growing crops, are filed and entered at the Supreme Court under the Bills of Sale Act of 1855. This Act provides that each

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document shall be filed and entered within 30 days after it is made or given, otherwise the transaction is illegal; and to prevent fraud and imposition the records are open to the inspection of the public. The total amount of advances annually made on bills of sale is not readily available, but judging from the number of bills filed the sum must be considerable. The provisions of the Act are availed of by all classes of the community, but brewers and money lenders figure conspicuously among the transferrees. No complete record is made of the bills terminated voluntarily or by seizure, the official records showing only those discharged in the ordinary way. Seizures of the security given, which generally comprises household furniture and stock-in-trade, are common occurrences, and it is to be regretted that no record of them is kept; but, as previously shown, the neglect in the registration of foreclosures is a weakness in the procedure under all Acts regulating the transactions in mortgage. The bills filed and the discharges registered for the six years ended 1895 were as follow:—

Year.	Bills of Sale.	
	Filed in Supreme Court.	Satisfied or discharged.
1890	3,045	221
1891	2,697	136
1892	2,776	132
1893	3,111	96
1894	2,752	77
1895	2,519	23

Summary of Mortgages.

The volume of mortgages registered and discharged under each class is given below. As the returns are incomplete, from causes already to, no general total has been established. The following table shows the total consideration of the mortgages registered during each of the last five years:—

Property.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
On Real Estate—	£	£	£	£	£
Under Deeds Registration Act	8,072,218	10,520,261	9,328,563	7,434,029	5,824,797
,, Real Property Act.....	8,559,662	8,585,876	6,770,594	6,034,324	5,624,968
On Personalty—					
Liens on Wool	1,562,270	1,320,323	1,688,661	1,935,660	1,952,451
Mortgages on Live Stock	3,159,636	2,632,758	2,814,637	3,176,725	2,059,391
Liens on Growing Crops	75,439	78,448	130,155	159,007	181,432
Mortgages on Ships	.....	20,249	34,646	19,563	23,847
,, ,, and Shipping Appliances	.....	12,472	61,293	3,334	18,455
Bills of Sale	Not available.				

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The consideration of the mortgages of which discharges were registered during each of the last five years is given below :—

Property.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
On Real Estate..	£	£	£	£	£
Under Deeds Registration Act	2,609,560	3,140,871	2,718,350	1,864,021	2,060,696
„ Real Property Act.....	4,230,172	3,991,165	2,809,272	1,927,794	2,083,092
On Personalty—					
Liens on Wool	At end of each Season.				
Mortgages on Live Stock	2,512,551	1,184,372	985,048	1,062,827	496,041
Liens on Growing Crops	At end of each Season.				
Mortgages on Ships	.....	16,806	12,187	26,828	15,673
„ and Shipping Appliances	.....	12,400	3,589	90	.....
Bills of Sale	Not available.				

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The position occupied by Friendly Societies at the present day is a most important one, on account of the strong influence which they exert on the welfare of the industrial classes of the population; and recognising the services which they render to the community by the inculcation of habits of thrift, and the relief of cases of distress which it would otherwise be the duty of the public to alleviate, the State, while forbidding the carrying on of operations by an unregistered society, and imposing a penalty on each member of its committee should it accept money in consideration of any interest therein, grants certain privileges to societies whose rules have been certified to by the Registrar as being in conformity with the law. These privileges are as follow :—

1. A registered Society can legally hold land and other kinds of property in the names of trustees, such property passing from one trustee to another by the mere fact of appointment, and can carry on all legal proceedings in the trustees' names.
2. The Society has a remedy on summary conviction whenever any person—
   - (*a*) Obtains possession of its property by false representation or imposition ;
   - (*b*) Having possession of any of its property, witholds or misapplies it ;
   - (*c*) Wilfully applies any part of such property to purposes other than those expressed or directed by the rules and authorised by the Act.

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3. If an officer of the Society dies or becomes bankrupt or insolvent, or if an execution is issued against him whilst he has money or property of the Society in his possession by virtue of his office, the trustees of the Society are entitled to claim such money or property in preference to any other creditors.
4. The documents of the Society are free from stamp duty.
5. The Society can admit members under twenty-one and take from them binding receipts, which would otherwise be of no effect.
6. If it invests money on mortgage, such mortgages can be discharged by a mere endorsed receipt without reconveyance.
7. Its officers are legally bound to render account and give up all money or property in their possession on demand or notice, and may be compelled to do so.
8. Disputes can be legally settled according to the Society's own rules.
9. Members of registered Friendly Societies have the privilege of legally insuring money, on the deaths of their wives and children, for their funeral expenses, without having an insurable interest in their lives.
10. Members of registered Societies may dispose at death of sums payable by the Society by written nomination without a will; and this nomination may be made by youths of sixteen who cannot make a will till they are twenty-one.
11. Where there is no will and no nomination, the trustees may distribute sums without letters of administration being taken out (a person who should do so in any other case would make himself liable for the debts of the deceased).

Most of the Friendly Societies operating in New South Wales were founded by old members of English orders who had emigrated to Australia before the light of public investigation had been thrown upon the business of the societies in Great Britain, and an exposure made of the unscientific principles on which they were being conducted. Accordingly, the societies established in this Colony were from the commencement worked under a fallacious system, which was regarded as perfect, and directly it was discovered that there was an accumulation of funds the members looked upon the money as their personal property—in fact, as profit derived from their exertions. They argued that any probable change from the existing satisfactory condition of affairs would be fully compensated for by the introduction of younger members, who in their turn would be satisfied with the present, and trust to others in the future; and any proposal for the application to their affairs of the scientific principles which governed the operations of friendly societies

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elsewhere was strenuously opposed as unnecessary until very recently, when many leading members were induced, owing to the rapid depletion of the funds of their orders, to give serious consideration to their position.

One of the principal causes which raised this false feeling of security was that in times of general prosperity many employers paid good workmen their wages during short periods of sickness in order to retain their services, and members in receipt of high wages and in tolerably easy circumstances did not feel the necessity of accepting assistance from their lodges. Also, it must be borne in mind that in those years the members were young, and even if all claims had been preferred it is probable that the benefits would not have amounted to a large sum, so that the funds of the societies could not do otherwise than increase in spite of the inadequate scale of contributions charged. An examination of the records of the registration of amended rules shows what the accumulation of capital led to: in many cases the members of a society thought it right not only to lower their contributions, but at the same time to increase the benefits given. The inevitable results have happened; the members have grown older, the claims on account of sickness and death have increased, and the depression in trade has compelled those out of employment to come upon the funds whenever possible, so that many of the societies now existing are in a state of insolvency.

As has already been stated, now that the fallacy underlying the old system of conducting the affairs of the societies has been so forcibly exploded, some attempt is being generally made to place affairs on a sound basis, but even now the steps taken by many of the older members are halting and uncertain; they concede that an error of judgment was committed in the past, but are unwilling to tax themselves to any considerable extent for the purpose of placing matters upon a better footing. At the same time they are convinced that no new members should be admitted unless they pay according to a properly-adjusted scale of contributions. With the wider spread of a knowledge of the subject, however, there is little doubt that the younger members of the societies will insist upon the adoption of rates which are sufficiently high to provide for the benefits which it is professed to give.

A list of the principal societies is given below, from which it will be seen that at the end of 1893 there were in existence 15 leading orders (some of them sub-divided into districts, provinces, or grand divisions), comprising 794 distinct subordinate branches, and 24 independent societies. The figures as to membership, with the exception of those referring to the Sons of Temperance, and as to funds, with the exception of the amounts given for the Sons of Temperance and the Order of Free Gardeners, may be accepted as correct. In the case of the orders just mentioned the returns have been generally unsatisfactory, and in each

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case the central executive appears to have but little control over its outlying branches :—

Name of Orders or Societies	Lodges or Branches.	Members.	Members good on books.	Amount of Lodge or Branch Funds.	Amount of District or Grand Lodge Funds.	Total Funds.
Manchester Unity I.O.O.F.—	No.	No.	No.	£	£	£
Sydney District	71	10,407	9,769	90,826	23,775	114,601
Cumberland District	8	477	448	1,314	592	1,906
Hunter River District	7	691	641	7,380	2,067	9,447
Goulburn District	13	1,456	1,362	10,770	7,550	18,320
Newcastle District	11	1,328	1,253	4,043	6,683	10,726
Bathurst District	19	1,628	1,499	12,713	6,078	18,791
Tamworth District	17	1,734	1,603	17,081	6,418	23,499
Riverina District	7	734	676	3,744	2,012	5,756
Braidwood District	4	214	192	890	1,262	2,152
Young District	2	231	213	1,702	752	2,454
Grand United O.O.F.—						
Sydney District	40	4,811	4,078	22,297	7,450	29,747
Braidwood District	20	1,261	1,072	5,498	5,789	11,287
Manning River District	5	226	188	1,062	733	1,795
Newcastle District	3	407	321	2,178	631	2,809
Hunter River District	25	2,872	2,619	10,391	3,244	13,635
Bathurst District	6	565	477	2,067	1,680	3,747
Goulburn District	8	565	511	2,837	1,164	4,001
Williams River District	6	380	300	2,426	381	2,807
Independent O.O.F.	70	5,477	4,584	18,820	13,474	32,294
National Independent O.O.F.	3	369	274	218	127	345
Ancient Order of Foresters—						
Sydney District	41	3,825	3,432	13,350	6,701	20,351
New England District	2	144	130	177	41	218
Neutral Courts	6	1,068	950	9,065	....	9,065
Juvenile Courts	3	102	86	311	....	311
Order of Royal Foresters	29	1,885	1,885	10,781	17,756	28,537
Irish National Foresters	4	328	178	399	115	514
United Ancient Order of Druids—						
Sydney District	54	5,761	4,992	9,444	6,209	15,653
Newcastle District	11	1,133	989	5,038	3,605	8,643
Grand United Order of Free Gardeners.	29	1,820	1,820	3,446	97*	3,543
Independent Order of Rechabites—						
Adult Lodges	43	1,521	1,313	1,754	5,163	6,917
Juvenile Lodges	23	703	597	143	....	143
Sons and Daughters of Temperance	78	....*	....*	....*	....*	....*
Protestant Alliance Friendly Society.	56	6,542	5,665	30,850	12,900	43,750
Loyal Protestant Benefit Society	23	1,016	852	1,856	796	2,652
Hibernian Australasian Benefit Society.	34	2,005	1,634	4,742	3,097	7,839
Australasian Holy Catholic Guild.	13	1,897	1,705	13,426	....	13,426
Miscellaneous	24	2,850	2,797	14,836	....	14,836
Total	818	68,433	61,105	338,175	148,342	486,517

* Returns incomplete.

The benefits promised by Friendly Societies are, in kind, much the same in all societies, and usually comprise medical attendance and medicine for a member and his family, sick pay allowance—generally £1 per week for the first six months, reduced thereafter to 15s. or 10s.—in the event of the death of a member's wife, and funeral money to his wife on the death of a member. The Act limits the amount payable on the

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death of a member to £200, and no annuity can be granted above £50, but there is no limit to the amount of sick pay, although the rules of some societies limit the total amount receivable weekly to 42s., nor to the number of societies to which one person may belong, and from which he may receive benefits, but the combined benefits must not exceed the above-mentioned amounts.

In addition to the Friendly Societies properly so called, some of the registered Trade Unions give benefits analogous to those of the societies mentioned above. The benefits, however, are usually smaller in amount, seldom exceeding 12s. a week for sick pay, and £7 in case of death. A few Trade Unions also make allowance to their members when they are out of employment.

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PART XXIV.

INSTRUCTION, SCIENCE, AND RELIGION.

INSTRUCTION.

THE history of primary education in New South Wales is naturally divided into four periods. During the first period, which lasted until 1848, the system in force was purely denominational, the Government granting to the heads of religious bodies assistance in proportion to the amount expended by them for educational purposes. No provision was made for the establishment of schools entirely under State control, and considerable dissatisfaction was the result. As early as 1834 attempts were made to modify the system in force, and five years later a grant was made with the object of securing undenominational education for the children of those who preferred it. It was not, however, until 1844 that any definite steps were taken in this direction. In that year a Committee of the Legislative Council reported in favour of the adoption of the Irish National School system, and, in accordance with this recommendation, an Act was passed in 1848 constituting two Boards, to one of which was entrusted the administration of denominational education, and to the other the undenominational, or, as it was called, the National system. This anomaly of two rival Boards, after existing for eighteen years, was abolished by the passing of the Public Schools Act of 1866. This Act provided for two distinct classes of schools, though all schools receiving aid from the State were placed under the control of a Board appointed by the Government, and styled the Council of Education. The public schools were entirely administered by this Board, but the denominational schools were partly governed by the various religious bodies by whom they had been founded. Although the system established by the Act of 1866 was essentially one of transition, education nevertheless made considerable progress during the years of its administration; but it was found impossible to maintain this dual system, not only on account of its intrinsic defects, but because the principle of granting State aid to religious schools was repugnant to the feelings of the majority of the people.

In 1880 State aid to denominational education was abolished. By an Act passed under the auspices of Sir Henry Parkes, which received

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the Royal assent on the 16th April, 1880, the entire educational system of the Colony was remodelled. The Act, in the first place, repealed the Education Act of 1866, dissolved the Council of Education, and placed the control of educational matters in the hands of the Minister of Public Instruction. It provides for the establishment and maintenance of public schools, to afford primary instruction to all children without sectarian or class distinction; superior public schools, in which additional lessons in the higher branches may be given; evening public schools, with the object of instructing persons who may not have received the advantages of primary education; and high schools for boys and girls, in which the course of instruction shall be of such a character as to complete the public school curriculum, or to prepare students for the University. It provides that in all schools under the Act the teaching shall be strictly non-sectarian; but the words "secular instruction" are held to include general religious teaching, as distinguished from dogmatical or polemical theology. The history of England and of Australia is to form part of the course of secular instruction; and it is further provided that four hours during each school day shall be devoted to secular instruction exclusively, but one other hour each day may be set apart for religious instruction, to be given in a separate class-room by the clergyman or religious teacher of any persuasion to the children of the same persuasion whose parents do not object to their receiving such religious instruction. This provision has been taken advantage of to some extent by several of the denominations. Eleven salaried teachers are employed in the Diocese of Sydney to give special religious instruction in public schools. One of the Bishop's chaplains holds the appointment of Diocesan Inspector of Schools, but he has no authority outside the classes for special religious instruction. The returns for 1894 show that during the year there were 13,286 visits paid by clergymen of the Church of England or their representatives to public schools, and upwards of 15,000 lessons were given. By the clergy or representatives of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales 2,276 visits were paid, and about 2,600 lessons given. The Wesleyan clergy also visited 107 public schools for the purpose of imparting religious instruction.

It is made compulsory upon parents to send their children between the ages of 6 and 14 years to school for at least seventy days in each half-year, unless just cause of exemption can be shown. Penalties are provided for breaches of this provision. But although education is compulsory, it is not altogether free, for parents are required to pay a weekly fee of 3d. per child, but not exceeding 1s. in all for the children of one family. Power is given, however, to the Minister, or the Local Board, to remit the fees where it is shown that the parents are unable to pay. The fees, except in evening schools, are not the property of the teacher, but are paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund. Children attending school are allowed to travel free by rail.

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Other sections of the Act permit of the establishment of provisional schools, and the appointment of itinerant teachers in remote and thinly-populated districts. Provision is also made for the establishment of training schools for teachers. It is enacted that Local Boards shall be appointed, whose duty it is to visit and inspect the public schools placed under their supervision, to suspend teachers in cases of misconduct not admitting of delay, to endeavour to induce parents to send their children regularly to school, and to report the names of parents or guardians who refuse or fail to educate their children. It should be observed that parents are not compelled to send their children to the public schools; they have full choice in the matter, the State only insisting that a certain standard of education shall be attained, no matter whether the instruction be imparted in public or private schools.

Great as has been the material progress of the Colony, its intellectual advancement has been much more rapid. At the Census of 1881, out of the 751,468 persons enumerated, there were 195,029, or very nearly 26 per cent., unable to read; at the Census of 1891, out of a population (exclusive of aborigines) of 1,123,954 persons, only 244,398, or 21·7 per cent., were returned as unable to read. Included in the number just given, there were 165,781 children of four years of age and under, so that there were only 78,617 persons, or 7 per cent. of the population five years of age and over, who were unable to read—a very small proportion when it is remembered that this number includes Chinese, Polynesians, and others. Another gauge of educational progress will be found in the records of the marriage registers signed by marks. The earliest official record of marriages was for the year 1857, when out of 5,804 persons married 1,646, or 28·4 per cent., were unable to sign the marriage register. During 1894 the number of such persons was only 292, or 1·9 per cent. of the total number married. A generation has passed away during the period embraced by the following table, and the improvement shown thereby cannot fail to be interesting.

Year.	Persons married.	Percentage signing with marks.	Number signing with marks.	Year.	Persons married.	Percentage signing with marks.	Number signing with marks.
1857	5,804	28·4	1,646	1885	15,236	4·7	723
1860	5,890	26·5	1,559	1886	15,622	4·0	622
1865	7,156	22·1	1,579	1887	15,180	3·5	531
1870	7,696	18·2	1,403	1888	15,688	3·7	587
1875	9,210	12·3	1,129	1889	15,060	3·4	504
1880	11,144	6·7	743	1890	15,752	2·7	426
1881	12,568	6·9	872	1891	16,914	3·1	521
1882	13,896	5·6	782	1892	16,044	3·1	491
1883	14,810	6·1	903	1893	15,498	2·2	335
1884	14,964	5·2	783	1894	15,332	1·9	292

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The progress exhibited in the above table is marvellous. The residuum of population not yet educated is already very small, and, moreover, of the 292 persons using marks a large proportion were not born in New South Wales, and arrived too late in life to avail themselves of its educational system. The proportion of persons using marks in this Colony compares favourably with that for the majority of the other colonies. The degree of illiteracy in each of the provinces, as disclosed by the marriage registers for the year 1894, was as shown hereunder :—

	Percentage signing with marks.
New South Wales	1·9
Victoria	0·9
Queensland	2·9
South Australia	2·0
Western Australia	2·0
Tasmania	5·4
New Zealand	1·3

The percentage of persons signing with marks in Tasmania is, it will be seen, much higher than in any of the other colonies, in all of which the percentage has been lowered during the last two or three years. In the case of Tasmania, the percentage for 1894 remained much the same as it was two years previously, when it stood at 5·1. Meanwhile, the corresponding figure for New South Wales has been reduced from 3·1 to 1·9.

Only an imperfect comparison can be made as to the number of children under instruction during past years, as the number in actual attendance cannot be distinguished from the number enrolled. The following table, however, gives the number of schools, both public and private, including the University, and the number of enrolled scholars for a period of fifty-nine years, and though it cannot be taken as absolutely correct, it may be relied on as being fairly indicative of the educational progress of the Colony. Victoria, it should be remembered, was separated in 1851, and Queensland in 1861 :—

Year.	Population of the Colony.	Schools.	Children enrolled.	Percentage. of population enrolled.
1836	77,096	85	3,391	4·4
1841	149,669	209	9,632	6·4
1846	196,704	394	19,033	9·7
1851	197,168	423	21,120	10·7
1856	286,873	565	29,426	10·3
1861	357,978	849	37,874	10·6
1866	428,813	1,155	59,594	13·9
1871	517,758	1,450	77,889	15·0
1876	614,181	1,629	131,620	21·4
1881	778,690	2,066	197,412	25·4
1886	989,340	2,833	226,860	22·9
1891	1,165,300	3,175	252,947	21·7
1892	1,197,650	3,236	258,582	21·6
1893	1,223,370	3,317	257,875	21·1
1894	1,251,450	3,386	259,466	20·7

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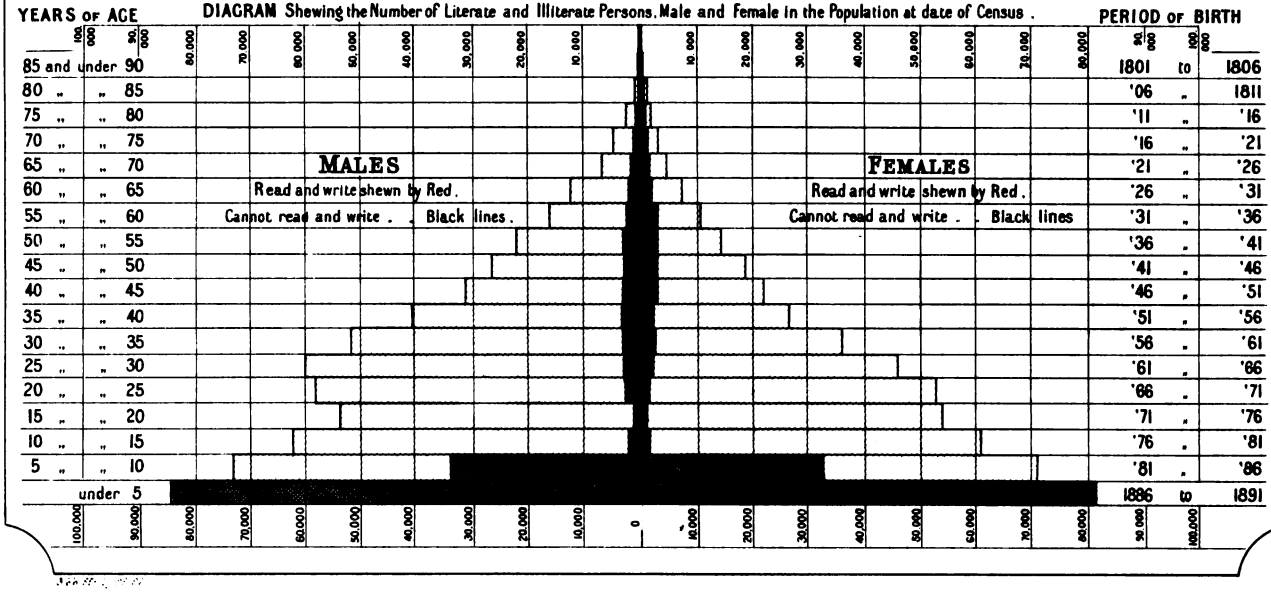
DIAGRAM SHEWING THE

EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE

CENSUS 5th APRIL 1891.



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The number of children given in the preceding table as enrolled in the various schools exceeds, in almost every case, the actual school attendance, as the gross enrolment for the year is given, and not the mean for each quarter. The latter information cannot be obtained except for recent years, but the figures as they stand give a basis of comparison which is not without value.

The following table shows the gross enrolment of distinct children during the ten years which closed with 1894, as well as the quarterly enrolments, in the public and private schools of the Colony, omitting the University. The mean quarterly enrolment may be taken as giving the nearest approximation to the number of children actually under tuition in State and private schools :—

Year.	Schools.	Teachers.	Scholars.		
			Gross enrolment.	Mean quarterly enrolment.	Percentage of children of school age in mean quarterly attendance.
1885	2,657	5,182	216,896	182,537	80·5
1886	2,817	5,564	224,892	192,010	81·4
1887	2,925	5,714	224,510	197,712	81·3
1888	2,950	5,767	226,856	201,083	80·7
1889	3,073	5,886	232,840	206,326	80·9
1890	3,120	6,574	237,853	212,969	81·3
1891	3,161	7,028	250,691	223,296	82·6
1892	3,221	7,353	256,388	231,954	82·8
1893	3,302	7,305	255,678	231,728	81·0
1894	3,371	7,419	257,281	232,694	79·5

In the gross enrolment just given for 1894 the 1,746 children in reformatories, industrial schools, and charitable institutions are not included; but should these be taken into account there will be 80 per cent. of all the children of school age receiving instruction in schools. The number of children at various age periods enrolled in State and private schools during 1894 was as follows :—

Age Period.	State Schools.	Private Schools.	Total.
Under 6 years	8,879	7,015	15,894
6 and under 14 years	181,502	37,846	219,348
14 years and over ...	15,884	6,155	22,039
Total	206,265	51,016	257,281

The provisions of the Public Instruction Act are compulsory only in regard to children between the ages of 6 and 14 years, but the actual

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enrolment at schools comprises children of 5 and under 15 years. In accordance with a ministerial minute, the minimum age at which children might be admitted to the public schools was, in January, 1894, raised to six years; but in September of the same year the minimum was again fixed at five years. According to the Census of 1891, the number of children of school age in New South Wales was 266,000, of whom 252,000 were receiving instruction in public and private schools and public institutions, excluding the University and colleges. Of these, 205,673 were on the rolls of State schools, and the remainder were distributed among the various private and denominational schools, reformatories, and charitable institutions, while about 14,000 were either receiving no instruction, or were being taught at home. No reliable estimate of the number of children under home tuition can be made, neither is it possible to determine the number of those who have ceased to attend school before reaching their fifteenth year, but it is very probable that considerable numbers are to be found in both classes. The total known enrolment at private schools during the December quarter of 1894 was 51,016, and the average attendance, 40,023. Of the average enrolment at the State schools, 69·1 per cent. attended school 70 days or more in the first half of 1894, and 75·8 per cent. in the second half of the year.

Owing to the sparseness of the population in nearly all the country districts of the Colony, the compulsory clauses of the Instruction Act cannot be strictly enforced. Nevertheless, the number of children growing up in absolute ignorance is by no means great, and, though the proportion of such children cannot be even approximately determined, there is sufficient evidence to warrant the conclusion that it is steadily decreasing. At the Census periods of 1861, 1871, 1881, and 1891, the degree of education of every 10,000 children from 5 and under 10 years of age was as follows:—

	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.
Read and write	2,355	3,470	4,413	5,377
Read only	3,289	2,752	1,982	1,368
Unable to read	4,356	3,778	3,605	3,255

Taking the children from 10 and under 15 years, the comparison is still more satisfactory:—

	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.
Read and write	6,769	7,666	8,804	9,705
Read only	1,854	1,292	614	143
Unable to read	1,377	1,042	582	152

The steady decrease in the proportion of illiterate children from 1861 to 1871, and from 1871 to 1881, is plainly visible from the above tables, and the Census of 1891 showed that this satisfactory decrease continued.

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State Schools.

When the present Public Instruction Act came into operation, on the 30th April, 1880, the Council of Education ceased to exist, and handed over to the new administration the schools which at that time were under its control. At the date mentioned there were maintained or subsidised by the Government, 1,220 schools, attended by 101,534 scholars, thus distributed :—

	No. of Schools.	No. of Pupils.
Public	705	68,823
Provisional	313	8,312
Half-time	97	1,683
Denominational	105	22,716
Total	1,220	101,534

At the close of 1882 the connection of the denominational schools with the State ceased, and the subsequent year is marked, as was to have been expected, by a considerable falling off in the number of children who were receiving their education at the expense of the State. The check only operated for a short period, as the year 1884 showed a recovery of more than the ground lost. This will be seen by the following table, which shows the enrolment and attendance of children at State-supported schools under the Public Instruction Act only :—

Year.	Gross enrolment of distinct children.	Quarterly enrolment.	Average attendance.
1882	159,490	134,872	90,944
1883	155,824	130,205	88,546
1884	167,134	139,159	95,215
1885	180,929	146,570	100,462
1886	179,990	153,244	105,538
1887	184,060	157,262	106,408
1888	186,692	160,919	112,220
1889	191,215	164,701	114,569
1890	195,241	170,357	116,665
1891	205,673	178,278	122,528
1892	210,641	186,207	132,580
1893	210,277	186,327	128,322
1894	206,265	181,678	130,089

From the time of the withdrawal of aid from denominational schools up to the end of 1893 the increase in the average quarterly enrolment at State schools was 38·2 per cent. ; but the falling off in enrolment during 1894 brought the figure down to 34·7 per cent. The decrease is attributable to a variety of causes, among them being the presence of epidemics in the early part of the year, and of continuous wet weather in the September quarter. There is no doubt, too, that the depression throughout the Colony induced many parents to keep their children

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from school either through inability to pay the fees or on account of the assistance they might render at home. The raising of the minimum school age for part of the year was another cause of the decrease. The increase in the average quarterly enrolment up to 1893, and the decrease for the year 1894, were :—

Year.	Per cent.	Year.	Per cent.
1884	6·9	1890	3·4
1885	5·3	1891	4·6
1886	4·6	1892	4·4
1887	2·6	1893	0·1
1888	2·3	1894	*2·5
1889	2·4		

* Decrease.

The number of schools under the direct control of the department during 1894 was 2,508, or 2,725 departments, thus classified :—

	Departments.
High Schools	5
Public Schools—Superior	241
,, Primary	1,643
Provisional Schools	302
Half-time Schools	449
House-to-house Schools	71
Evening Schools	14
Total	2,725

These schools provided accommodation for 231,370 pupils, being an increase of accommodation for 2,326 pupils more than the number provided for in the previous year.

The following table gives the number of State Schools in each of the Australasian Colonies, together with the number of scholars in average attendance :—

Colony.	Number of Schools.	Number of Teachers.	Number of Scholars. [Average Attendance.]	Average attendance of Pupils per School.
New South Wales	2,508	4,453	130,089	52
Victoria	1,956	4,629	132,083	68
Queensland	699	1,470	45,050	64
South Australia	609	1,110	37,886	62
Western Australia	116	173	3,552	31
Tasmania	249	486	10,594	43
New Zealand	1,410	3,306	106,151	75
Australasia	7,547	15,627	465,405	62

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The teachers in New South Wales during 1894 numbered 4,453, viz., 2,294 males, and 2,159 females, the following being the classification :—

Grade.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Principal Teachers	1,647	553	2,200
Mistresses of Departments	.....	222	222
Assistants	229	522	751
Students in Training Schools	53	50	103
Pupil-teachers	351	725	1,076
Work-mistresses	.....	71	71
High School Teachers	14	16	30
Total	2,294	2,159	4,453

The average number of pupils per teacher, on the basis of the mean quarterly enrolment, was, therefore, 40·8, and the average attendance per teacher, 29·2, while the average quarterly enrolment of children per school was 72·4.

The curriculum of the public schools of New South Wales provides merely for imparting to children a sound course of primary education, and the elements of those sciences which form the basis of higher courses of education, scientific or technical. The State provides separately the necessary facilities for acquiring technical knowledge under a system of training about which more will be said further on. The Kindergarten system has been introduced fully into five of the schools, and partially into thirty-nine others, and rather more than 11,000 children are receiving this kind of instruction.

The supply of teachers is obtained from three sources—the two training colleges; ex-pupil teachers who do not enter a training college; and young persons, not less than 18 years of age, who have been mostly educated in the public schools of the Colony, and who undergo a short course of training under qualified teachers. Few teachers trained outside the Colony find employment under the department. At the Fort-street Training School for males 54 students attended the course of training during the year. Of these, 25 were seniors and 29 were juniors. It was proposed a few years back to erect a residential college for the training of male students within the University. According to plans which were prepared, accommodation was to be provided for 50 students, with lecture and class-rooms, dining-hall, dormitories, etc., and a residence for the Principal. The cost was estimated at £37,500. Plans were submitted to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, and were approved of and the construction of the building recommended to Parliament, but the Government has not yet seen its way clear to undertake the work. At the Hurlstone Training School for female students there were 50 training during the year, of whom 25 were seniors and 25 were juniors. The pupil-teachers in the service numbered 1,076, of whom 351 were males and 725 females. The pupil-teachers are carefully

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selected, and are taken on probation for three months before they are permanently employed, and then, if approved, they have to serve a term of four years, when if they are successful in passing the necessary examinations they may enter one of the training schools.

The number of teachers in the service of the Department of Public Instruction at the end of 1894 was, as already stated, 4,453, being a decrease of 74 as compared with the total for the previous year. The teachers obtain promotion only after passing a series of examinations, which are so framed as to efficiently test their progress in literary attainments, and their skill in imparting knowledge. There are ten classes of male teachers in charge of schools, their emoluments ranging from £91 to £380 per annum, as well as residence in the case of those married and classified; unclassified teachers in charge of provisional schools receive from £68 to £91; assistant teachers are paid at rates varying from £142 to £237; and pupil-teachers from £40 to £68 per annum. Female teachers in charge of departments are paid from £160 to £285 per annum; assistant teachers' salaries vary from £108 to £160; and pupil teachers receive from £23 to £46 per annum. Work mistresses' salaries range from £86 to £114 per annum.

The local supervision of the public schools of the Colony is placed in the hands of School Boards appointed in the various districts of the Colony, under the provisions of the Public Instruction Act. These Boards are supposed to exercise a general oversight in regard to the public schools in their districts, but cannot interfere with the internal discipline or management of the schools, which remain under the direct control of the Minister of Public Instruction, through the inspectors and other officers of his department. The total number of Boards in operation at the close of 1894 was 286.

The average cost per child in average attendance at the public schools has greatly varied, as will be seen by the following table, which gives the amounts for the last ten years:—

Year.	For school premises.			For the maintenance of schools.			For administration, including the amount paid as retiring allowances.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1885	1	15	5¼	4	3	7	0	13	1¼	6	12	1½
1886	1	9	4½	4	1	6	0	13	1½	6	4	0
1887	1	2	6½	4	3	7½	0	11	3½	5	17	5½
1888	0	15	1	4	1	7¾	0	9	8½	5	6	5¼
1889	0	19	1½	4	2	6¼	0	9	3¼	5	10	11
1890	1	5	9½	4	5	3	0	9	8¼	6	0	8¾
1891	1	11	2¾	4	5	0½	0	9	4	6	5	7¼
1892	1	3	9¼	4	3	6¼	0	8	7¼	5	15	10¾
1893	0	17	7	4	5	8½	0	8	2	5	11	5½
1894	0	11	4¼	4	2	9¼	0	7	6	5	1	7½

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In the public schools of New South Wales the cost per child is less than in Victoria or Western Australia, but is larger than in any of the other provinces. The following figures do not include cost of buildings :—

	Cost per child in average attendance.
New South Wales	£4 10 3¼
Victoria	4 15 2¾
Queensland	3 14 1½
South Australia	3 8 11
Western Australia	4 17 9
Tasmania	3 2 7¾
New Zealand	3 14 10

The average cost per child in average attendance during 1894 at the voluntary schools in England and Wales was £1 18s. 1¾d., and at the Board Schools, £2 8s. 9¾d. ; but no useful purpose is to be gained by comparing England and Wales with Australia in regard to cost of education. In considering the expense incurred by New South Wales in past years it should be borne in mind that a heavy outlay was needed to build the necessary school-houses after the Act of 1880 became law. Under this Act the expenses contingent upon the necessity of obtaining efficient results in a country so sparsely populated as New South Wales were unavoidably great. School-houses had to be built, teachers required training, and the whole machinery for providing schools and teachers had to be started in many parts of the country where there were none but denominational schools, and frequently no educational establishments at all. To these initial expenses was due, in a great measure, the relatively high cost of public education in the first few years after the passing of the Act of 1880. In 1883, for instance, the total cost per child in average attendance was not less than £9 5s. 7d. There was a reduction to £6 12s. 1½d. in 1885, and since that year there has been a further decrease to £5 1s. 7½d. It may be expected that the cost will not at any time greatly exceed the present figures, as the schoolhouses have been built with due regard to the increase in the number of scholars which must be anticipated in a young, promising, and growing colony. It may be added that most of the school-buildings are of a character that would do credit to the most advanced countries in the world, the greatest care being taken to have them replete with all the improvements which the experience of centuries has suggested in older communities.

When comparing the average cost of education per child in attendance in New South Wales with that of the neighbouring colony, Victoria, the results for 1894 must appear satisfactory, especially when it is borne in mind that the smaller extent of the territory of the latter colony, and the greater travelling facilities which a railway system proportionately much

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larger offers, must necessarily reduce the cost of education. In South Australia settlement is confined to certain districts in which the population is more compact, whilst the whole of the territory of New South Wales, if we except the extreme west, may be regarded as everywhere settled, at least to such an extent as to necessitate the extension of the public school system throughout the greater part of the Colony. But the spread of public instruction is considered so pre-eminently important an object that the Legislature has at all times expressed its readiness to make every sacrifice and to spare no expense to render efficacious the system of national education which it adopted in 1880.

The following table will show the total amount expended by the State for the ten years ended 1894, and the annual amount per head of population provided for the primary education of the children of the Colony :—

Year.	Amount.	Per head of population.	Year.	Amount.	Per head of population
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
1885	663,697	14 4	1890	704,260	12 9
1886	654,411	13 6	1891	769,565	13 5
1887	624,983	12 5	1892	768,395	13 0
1888	597,102	11 6	1893	715,219	11 10
1889	635,509	11 11	1894	661,055	10 8

This statement would not be complete if some details were not furnished, showing under what principal heads this expenditure was incurred, and the amount of school fees received during the same period. These details were :—

Year.	Number of Schools.	Gross enrolment of distinct Pupils.	Expenditure on school premises.	Expenditure on maintenance of Schools, including Administration, &c.	Total Expenditure.	School Fees.	Net State Expenditure.
			£	£	£	£	£
1885	2,046	173,440	178,002	485,695	663,697	58,926	604,771
1886	2,170	179,990	155,072	499,339	654,411	63,165	591,246
1887	2,236	184,060	119,957	505,026	624,983	63,896	561,087
1888	2,271	186,692	84,575	512,527	597,102	69,554	527,548
1889	2,373	191,215	109,576	525,933	635,509	72,318	563,191
1890	2,423	195,241	150,441	553,819	704,260	71,827	632,433
1891	2,457	205,673	191,374	578,191	769,565	75,913	693,652
1892	2,502	210,641	157,679	610,716	768,395	77,525	690,870
1893	2,520	210,277	112,855	602,364	715,219	73,268	641,951
1894	2,508	206,265	73,792	587,263	661,055	70,693	590,362

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It will be seen that the amount directly contributed by parents towards their children's education is but a small proportion of the total cost. In 1894 the contributions of the parents came to £70,693 8s. 7d., a sum smaller by £2,575 than that received in 1893, and less per head of average attendance than in any year since 1885, as may be seen from the following statement, which shows for ten years the cost to the State of the education of each child in average attendance, as well as the total cost, including the amount of fees received :—

Year.	Cost to State.	Total Cost.	Amount of Fees received.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1885	6 0 4	6 12 1	0 11 9
1886	5 12 0	6 4 0	0 12 0
1887	5 5 6	5 17 6	0 12 0
1888	4 14 0	5 6 5	0 12 5
1889	4 18 3	5 10 10	0 12 7
1890	5 8 5	6 0 9	0 12 4
1891	5 13 2	6 5 7	0 12 5
1892	5 4 2	5 15 10	0 11 8
1893	5 0 0	5 11 5	0 11 5
1894	4 10 9	5 1 7	0 10 10

The average number of free scholars during the year 1894 was 16,736, or 8,529 boys and 8,207 girls, equal to a percentage of 12·9 of the average attendance. In the December quarter, free education was granted to no less than 18,605 pupils. It was explained by the Minister in his annual report that owing to the depression considerable difficulty was experienced during the year in obtaining regular payment of school fees, and that it was found necessary to cancel a large number of debts.

In accordance with a design long contemplated, savings' banks were opened during 1887 in connection with the public schools of the Colony. At the close of 1894 there were 631 banks in operation, as compared with 624 at the close of 1893. The deposits for the year amounted to £9,639, and the sum withdrawn was £9,831, showing, as compared with 1893, a decrease in deposits of £273, and in withdrawals of £1,313. The total amount to the credit of the school banks on the 31st December, 1894, was £6,049. The object aimed at in establishing these banks is to inculcate practically the principles of economy while yet the minds of the children are susceptible of deep impressions. A systematic training for this purpose is a thing to be desired in every public school, in order to engender habits of thrift amongst the children, to indoctrinate them as to the uses and effects of money that are ulterior to immediate gratifications, and to make them recognize and calculate upon poverty and degradation as the natural results of waste and improvidence.

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Private Schools.

The attendance at private schools increased to a large extent after the withdrawal of aid from denominational schools under the control of the Education Department. Many of the establishments of the latter class ceased to exist immediately on the withdrawal of State aid, and the children by whom they were attended were transferred for the most part to the ordinary public schools of the Colony. Some of the schools, however, were still maintained, chiefly those connected with the Roman Catholic Church, and thenceforth appear in the returns as private schools.

The following table gives the particulars respecting private schools from 1885 to 1894, inclusive :—

Year.	Schools.	Teachers.	Scholars.	Year.	Schools.	Teachers.	Scholars.
1885	611	1,654	35,967	1890	697	2,393	42,612
1886	647	1,808	38,766	1891	704	2,601	45,018
1887	689	1,873	40,450	1892	719	2,717	45,747
1888	679	1,854	40,164	1893	782	2,778	45,401
1889	700	1,884	41,625	1894	863	2,966	51,016

Dividing the private schools of the Colony into their respective classes, there were in operation during 1894 :—

Classification.	Schools.	Teachers.	Scholars.
Undenominational	506	1,203	11,715
Church of England	62	246	3,475
Roman Catholic	285	1,453	35,150
Wesleyan	5	32	425
Presbyterian	5	32	251
Total	863	2,966	51,016

Not a few of the schools returned as undenominational are religious schools, though no definite form of religious opinions is inculcated therein. Of distinctly religious schools, those of the Roman Catholic Church comprise the great majority, numbering nearly 80 per cent. of professedly denominational schools, and 89·4 per cent. of the scholars educated therein. The number of pupils attending these schools was not ascertained for the years preceding 1886. On the withdrawal of State assistance from denominational schools in 1882 there were in operation under the Department of Education, 75 Roman Catholic Schools, attended by 16,595 pupils, while in 1894, under the new order of things, there were 285 schools, attended by 35,150 pupils. There were, however,

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some Roman Catholic Schools prior to 1882 not receiving aid from the State, and, on the other hand, some of the schools which were closed in 1882 have not since been opened. The following are the figures relating to schools of this denomination for the nine years for which returns are available :—

Year.	Schools.	Teachers.	Scholars on Roll.			Average Attendance.		
			Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1886	215	896	11,222	13,798	25,020	9,533	11,766	21,299
1887	238	897	12,518	14,474	26,992	10,158	12,108	22,266
1888	247	916	12,535	14,637	27,172	10,010	11,799	21,809
1889	267	996	13,674	14,872	28,546	10,785	11,977	22,762
1890	244	1,112	13,021	15,531	28,552	10,206	12,225	22,431
1891	250	1,242	13,837	16,854	30,691	10,547	13,241	23,788
1892	243	1,268	13,973	17,244	31,217	10,820	13,292	24,112
1893	259	1,359	14,439	16,860	31,299	10,911	12,838	23,749
1894	285	1,453	16,044	19,106	35,150	12,352	14,813	27,165

The Church of England is the only other religious body maintaining schools of importance. During 1894 such schools numbered 62, and were attended by 3,475 pupils. At the end of 1882 there were in existence 42 Church of England Schools, with an enrolment of 11,927 children. The following table shows the state of these schools during the past nine years :—

Year.	Schools.	Teachers.	Scholars on Roll.			Average Attendance.		
			Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1886	56	143	1,794	1,579	3,373	1,662	1,346	3,008
1887	73	167	1,815	1,514	3,329	1,588	1,258	2,846
1888	66	154	1,548	1,552	3,100	1,272	1,242	2,514
1889	47	115	1,353	1,302	2,655	1,065	999	2,064
1890	64	209	1,844	1,763	3,607	1,449	1,410	2,859
1891	47	185	1,917	1,417	3,334	1,475	1,037	2,512
1892	48	188	1,749	1,472	3,221	1,388	1,125	2,513
1893	47	178	1,504	1,334	2,838	1,204	932	2,136
1894	62	246	1,852	1,623	3,475	1,445	1,237	2,682

Higher Education.

It has already been mentioned that the State has made provision for higher education by the establishment of High Schools in the metropolis and the principal centres of population. The curriculum of these schools is of such a character as to enable students to complete the course of instruction the basis of which they acquired in the Public Schools, and, if they so wish, to prepare themselves for the University examinations.

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Admission to these schools is by examination only. There were at the close of the year 1894 two High Schools for boys and three for girls. The gross enrolment for that year was 310 boys and 301 girls, making a total of 611 pupils, as against 815 for 1893. The average attendance in 1894 was 436 as against 568 for the preceding year. Comparing the numbers for the two years in question, the foregoing figures show a decrease of 24 per cent. in enrolment, and of 23 per cent. in the average attendance. There is no doubt that the action taken in 1893 in raising the quarterly fee from two to three guineas contributed to some extent towards this reduction. During 1894, 81 pupils from the High Schools passed the junior, 7 the senior, and 48 the matriculation examinations at the University.

A system of scholarships and bursaries for boys and girls at State schools has been brought into operation. Twenty of each—ten for each sex—are available for education at State, High, or Grammar Schools; and six bursaries for boys and four for girls are tenable at the University. The former are awarded half-yearly, and the latter at the March matriculation examinations, to the most proficient pupils, in cases where the parents are unable to defray the expense of the pupil's education. Eight candidates from the High Schools—five boys and three girls—were successful in obtaining bursaries at the University matriculation in 1894, the other two not being awarded. For the State scholarships and bursaries 90 candidates were successful; 25 boys and 31 girls obtained scholarships for High Schools and Superior Schools, and 25 boys and 9 girls obtained bursaries for High and Superior Schools.

Superior Public Schools, in which the subjects taught embrace, in addition to the ordinary course prescribed for Public Schools, such other subjects as will enable the students to compete at the senior and junior public examinations, are also established. There were 96 of these schools in existence at the end of 1894, with an enrolment of 64,969 pupils.

In addition to the various classes of Public Schools already mentioned, there exist several institutions of an educational character which receive an annual subsidy from the Government. The most important of these is the Sydney Grammar School, which is one of the principal schools of the Colony. In 1894 the average quarterly enrolment was 379, and the daily attendance 363. Towards maintaining this school the Colonial Treasury contributed the sum of £2,300, the school fees and other revenue amounting to £6,312. In 1895 Parliament withdrew its special grant to this institution, thus limiting the State aid to the statutory endowment of £1,500.

The University.

In the year 1849 Mr. Wentworth presented a petition to the mixed Legislative Council from certain shareholders of a proprietary school, known as Sydney College, praying for the appointment of a select committee of the House "to consider the best means of carrying on the institution so

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as to afford the youth of the Colony the means of obtaining instruction in the higher branches of literature and science." The committee was appointed, but it received somewhat different instructions, being directed to "consider and report how best to institute a university for the promotion of literature and science, to be endowed at the public expense." The committee, after a few weeks' deliberation, brought up its report, recommending the establishment of a university with a permanent endowment of £5,000 per annum out of the general revenue, and a bill was brought in by Mr. Wentworth in accordance with the report. The Council was shortly afterwards prorogued, and the measure consequently lapsed for that session. In 1850 the bill, which was based mainly on the charter of University College, London, was reintroduced by Mr. Wentworth, and, after some discussion and a few amendments, was passed, receiving the Royal assent on the 1st October of that year.

The endowment was given for "defraying the stipends of teachers in literature, science, and art," and for administration purposes, there being no provision made for teaching any other branch. Power was, however, given to examine and to grant degrees after examination in law and medicine as well as in arts. The University was to be strictly undenominational, and the Act expressly prohibited any religious test for admission to studentship or to any office, or for participation in any of its advantages or privileges. Residence was not contemplated otherwise than in affiliated colleges, but authority was given to license tutors and masters of boarding-houses with whom students of the University might live.

A Senate of sixteen Fellows was constituted by the original Act to govern the University, and it was empowered to elect from among its members its own Provost and Vice-Provost, which titles were later on changed to those of Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor. The Fellows were, in the first instance, nominated by the Crown, but were to be replaced, as vacancies arose, by the Fellows themselves until there should be 100 graduates holding the degree of Master in Arts or of Doctor in Law or Medicine. The first Senate commenced its labours at the close of the year 1850, with Mr. Edward Hamilton, M.A., as Provost, and Sir Charles Nicholson, M.D., as Vice-Provost. It shortly established three chairs in Classics, Mathematics, and Chemistry and Experimental Physics, and sent to England for competent professors to fill them; and on the 11th October, 1852, the University was opened with an imposing ceremony, in presence of the Governor and principal officers, and under the presidency of Sir Charles Nicholson, and twenty-four matriculated students were admitted to membership.

In 1858 a royal charter was granted, which declares that "the degrees of this University in arts, law, and medicine shall be recognized as academical distinctions of merit, and be entitled to rank, precedence, and consideration in the United Kingdom as fully as if the said degrees had been granted in any university of the United Kingdom."

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Since the passing of the original Act various changes have been made by amending Acts, of which the principal are as follow:—By an Act passed in 1857, those who had taken the degree of B.A. or M.A. received certain privileges in respect of admission to the Bar or to the Roll of Solicitors. In 1861 it was directed that in addition to the ordinary sixteen Fellows there should be not fewer than three nor more than six *ex officio* members of the Senate who should be Professors in such branches of learning as the Senate should by any by-law select; and such Professors and other Public Teachers and examiners and every superior officer declared to be such by the by-laws should be a member of the University, with the same rights and privileges as to the election of new Fellows as persons holding the degrees of M.A., LL.D., and M.D. In 1881 *Ad eundem* degrees, with equal privileges, were authorized to be conferred; and B.A.'s of three years standing were empowered to vote at new elections of Fellows. In 1884 the Senate's powers as regards teaching and degrees were extended by enabling it to give instruction and grant degrees or certificates in all branches of knowledge with the exception of Theology or Divinity, subject to a proviso that no student should be compelled to attend lectures or to pass examinations in Ethics, Metaphysics, or Modern History; and by the same Act it was directed, in accordance with a previous by-law of the Senate, that the benefits and advantages of the University should extend in all respects to women equally with men.

The number of persons entitled to vote at the elections of new Fellows reached 100 in 1872, whereupon the Senate passed by-laws in respect of such elections, and styled the electoral body "Convocation." This body, including the additions made by the several amending Acts, and the heads of affiliated colleges, who had been declared to be superior officers of the University under the Act of 1861, now numbers upwards of 700.

The public endowment of the University stood at £5,000 per annum until 1880, when £1,000 was added for assistant lectureships; but in 1877 a bequest of the value of £6,000, and producing about £300 a year, was made by Mrs. Hovell, widow of the explorer of that name, for instruction in Geology and Physical Geography, which, together with fees, enabled the Senate to divide the Chair of Chemistry and Experimental Physics into two, to the first of which Geology and Physical Geography were attached. In 1882 a further vote of £5,000 was made to enable the Senate to establish Schools of Medicine and Engineering, and to give some further help to the original Department of Arts. Medical and Engineering Professors and Lecturers, a Professor of Natural History, and some small lectureships in Arts were created; but this sum was soon found inadequate for the intended purposes, and was increased to £7,900, inclusive of the £1,000 granted in 1880. Allowances were also made for apparatus, and a sum of £2,000 per annum granted for evening classes in Arts. In the early part

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of 1893 the Government informed the Senate that, in view of the necessity for reducing the public expenditure, certain Parliamentary votes which had, until then, been made for the general endowment of the University would be reduced, and that the accustomed special appropriations for apparatus would be withdrawn. Accordingly, the appropriations by Parliament for 1893 were reduced by £900 per annum on the endowment, and by the whole provision for apparatus. In 1894 the Government also withdrew £2,000 from the additional endowment. Principally out of the endowment for Evening Classes a system of Extension Lectures to non-matriculants was commenced in 1882, first in the metropolis, but spreading to places at a distance; and it is not improbable that as time goes on these lectures will become a very prominent feature in the action and influence of the University.

In 1855 the present site was granted by Governor Sir Charles Fitzroy, by Royal authority, for the erection of suitable buildings, and also to provide land for the prospective erection of four denominational Colleges. It comprises about 126 acres, formerly known as Grose Farm, to which a further grant of 9 acres was afterwards added for the enlargement of the domain or park. Before this grant was made the work of the University had been carried on in the old Sydney College, which, together with its library and even an endowment for a Scholarship bequeathed by Mr. Solomon Levy, was purchased by the Government for the University, and a grant of £50,000 was made by Parliament in 1853 as a building fund. As early as 1854 an Act was passed to aid and partly endow four colleges within the University. A contribution of not less than £10,000, and not more than £20,000, was to be made from the general revenue for building funds, provided that an equal sum was subscribed by private individuals, and £500 a year was to be paid annually by the Government towards the stipend of the Principal of each College. Just before this, steps had been taken to establish the St. Paul's Church of England College, ; the St. John's Roman Catholic College followed in 1857, and the Presbyterian College of St. Andrew in 1867. The Wesleyan body, for whom an equal area had been set apart, declined to accept it, and in 1873 some 12 acres of the land originally intended for a site for their college were resumed by the Crown and dedicated to the Prince Alfred Hospital; and provision was made for the establishment by the University of a Medical School in connection with it, and for the joint control of the University Senate and Hospital Board in respect of all appointments of the medical and surgical officers of the Hospital. But while the regulations under which students have access to the Hospital are framed by the Hospital Board, with the Senate alone rests the appointment of Professors and Lecturers in the Medical School.

A system of Public Examinations, similar in general character and purpose to the middle class examinations of Oxford and Cambridge, was instituted in 1867, and has gradually spread, till in 1894 there

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were no less than 75 local centres other than Sydney, 10 of which were in the Colony of Queensland; and at the examination held in September of that year there were 1,631 candidates. Of these, 137 presented themselves for the senior, and 1,494 for the junior examination, and 103 senior and 824 junior candidates passed. The University also initiated examinations of articled clerks in 1877, in compliance with a rule of the Supreme Court, and during 1894 there were 26 successful candidates. An examination of candidates for appointment to the Civil Service was instituted at an earlier date; 164 candidates presented themselves at this examination during 1894, and 78 were successful.

Many donations have been made to the University for the use and reward of students. Among the first were gifts of £1,000 each from Mr. Thomas Barker and Sir Edward Deas-Thomson, represented by lands which are now of twice that value. Many others followed, and about £42,000 has been presented up to the present date, exclusive of prizes, which have been exhausted by award, and irrespective of increases in value. About £10,000 of this is still in suspense on account of intervening life estates to the widows of testators. Besides the above, a sum of £30,000 was left by the late Mr. Thomas Fisher for a library, and £6,000 was given by the late Sir William Macleay for a Curatorship of the Natural History Museum, presented by him to the University, and for which the Government have erected a suitable building. There have also been bequests of property other than money to the estimated value of £51,000 up to the present time.

Above all, the late Mr. John Henry Challis left his residuary estate to the University, subject to certain annuities. In December, 1890, the trustees handed over to the University the major part of the Australian portion of the estate, consisting of £199,362 in investments and £3,228 cash balance. Under this bequest the Senate have created new Chairs in Law, Modern Literature, History, Logic and Mental Philosophy, Anatomy, Engineering, and Biology, to which they have given the testator's name. The Hovell and Challis bequests constituted, until the end of 1894, the only resources of the University for actual education other than the public endowments. During 1895 Mr. P. N. Russell, of London (formerly of Sydney), resolved to devote £50,000 to the purpose of endowing the School of Engineering, and steps were taken for legally vesting the sum named in the authorities of the University.

The teaching-staff, now that all the Challis Chairs are filled, consists of fourteen Professors, twenty-six Lecturers, of whom three are Evening Lecturers, and four Demonstrators. The subjects over which Professors preside are Greek, Latin, Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, Geology and Physical Geography, Physiology, Anatomy, Engineering, Modern Literature, Logic and Mental Philosophy, Biology, Law, and History. The Lecturers deal with Geology and Physical Geography, Metallurgy, Latin, Modern Literature, Mathematics, Architecture, Surveying, Mining, Principles and Practice of Medicine, Principles and Practice of Surgery,

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Midwifery and Diseases of Women, Materia Medica and Therapeutics, Pathology, Medical Jurisprudence and Public Health, Clinical Medicine, Clinical Surgery, Psychological Medicine, Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery, Law of Real Property and Equity, Law of Procedure including Evidence, Law of Wrongs, Civil and Criminal, and Law of Obligations. There are also Tutors in Medicine and Surgery, and a Tutor to the female students. The Demonstrators are appointed in Chemistry, Physiology, Anatomy, Biology, Geology and Physical Geography, and Physics.

From the foundation of the University to the end of 1894, 1,249 degrees of various kinds have been conferred, the highest number bestowed in any one year being 123 in 1894. The degrees conferred include 244 who hold the degree of M.A., 721 B.A., 23 LL.D., 42 LL.B., 33 M.D., 82 M.B., 58 Masters of Surgery, 21 B. Sc., 2 Masters of Engineering, and 23 Bachelors of Engineering. During 1894 the degrees conferred (including *ad eundem*) were M.A. 2, B.A. 80, LL.B. 8, M.B. 11, Ch.M. 11, B.Sc. 6, M.E. 1, B.E. 4. The number of students attending lectures increased from 58 in 1876 to 522 matriculated and 70 non-matriculated students in 1894, whilst the number of candidates who attended the public examinations has increased both in the senior and junior divisions, the former having advanced from 53 in 1876 to 137 in 1894, and the latter from 356 to 1,494. The figures for some years anterior to 1894 were even larger.

Marked increases in the number of successful candidates at the public examinations have also taken place, as the following table will show :—

Year.	Number of students.		Number of students qualified by matriculation	Public Examinations.			
				Number of Seniors.		Number of Juniors.	
	Attending Lectures.	Attending extension Lectures.		Examined.	Passed.	Examined.	Passed.
1876	58	...	34	53	40	356	212
1877	61	...	23	63	38	303	135
1878	62	...	24	58	41	364	243
1879	83	...	58	76	64	333	247
1880	76	...	64	66	54	381	209
1881	81	...	80	48	36	392	231
1882	97	...	101	57	43	398	240
1883	128	...	85	57	36	473	299
1884	203	...	142	65	48	563	379
1885	206	...	115	84	73	645	440
1886	203	137	122	107	83	858	548
1887	215	329	132	125	87	834	562
1888	250	403	130	141	110	834	538
1889	275	327	210	115	90	1,085	706
1890	409	447	301	129	101	1,172	798
1891	532	298	478	143	110	1,729	1,191
1892	598	528	540	173	134	2,132	1,467
1893	586	514	539	176	127	1,853	921
1894	592	934	522	137	103	1,494	824

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The expenditure of the University is met out of the revenue accruing from students' fees, the Government aid, and sundry private sources, including bequests, irrespectively of income for the express use or reward of students. The following table will show the yearly state of the finances of the University during the period from 1876 to 1894 :—

Year.	Receipts.					Expenditure.
	Government aid.		Lecture fees.	Other sources.	Total.	
	Endowment.	Grants for apparatus or other special purposes.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1876	5,000	.....	403	100	5,503	5,877
1877	5,000	.....	334	100	5,434	5,434
1878	5,000	1,168	324	100	6,592	7,748
1879	5,000	114	476	100	5,690	5,746
1880	5,000	1,500	457	100	7,057	6,795
1881	5,000	1,000	706	100	6,806	6,227
1882	10,000	2,964	1,080	100	14,144	10,614
1883	12,000	2,343	1,266	120	15,729	15,381
1884	12,000	3,500	2,207	170	17,877	16,198
1885	12,000	4,500	2,479	385	19,364	20,094
1886	12,000	5,500	2,600	323	20,423	20,765
1887	12,000	4,918	2,819	308	20,045	20,811
1888	12,000	7,099	3,022	385	22,506	21,867
1889	12,000	6,800	5,667	807	25,274	28,030
1890	13,900	4,734	5,385	293	24,312	26,075
1891	13,900	4,400	7,262	11,694	37,256	36,649
1892	13,900	4,200	7,647	11,843	37,590	40,083
1893	13,000	5,695	7,912	11,921	38,528	39,769
1894	11,000	2,200	7,700	12,590	33,490	33,539

An extensive addition to the University's magnificent buildings has been made for the use of the School of Medicine. It provides the most complete accommodation for students desiring to follow the profession of medicine and surgery; and the Prince Alfred Hospital, erected, as before stated, on the University grant, affords them the necessary means of study. At the commencement of the year 1895 there were 132 undergraduates, of whom 5 were ladies, in the Medical School—a very fair number considering that this school was not established until 1883, and then commenced with only four students. A laboratory for the Department of Physics has also been erected, and is replete with every means of illustrating the teaching of physical science. In March, 1890, a Department of Chemistry and its adjuncts were opened. The accommodation provided includes lecture halls and four laboratories, besides other facilities. One of the laboratories is used in connection with the School of Mines, which was opened early

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in 1895 for imparting knowledge in geology (including physical geography and palæontology), mineralogy, and practical mining work. The buildings for the School of Mines cost upwards of £4,000, and more than £1,500 was expended on fittings.

The Women's College—a college within the University of Sydney—was opened in March, 1892. It was established for the purpose of affording residence and domestic supervision to women students of the University, with efficient tutorial assistance in their preparation for the University lectures and examinations. In order that full effect might be given to a principle affirmed in the "University Extension Act of 1884," it was necessary that a college for women should be brought into existence, it having been enacted in this measure that "the benefits and advantages of the University and the provisions of the Acts relating thereto shall be deemed to extend in all respects to women equally with men." The college is strictly undenominational—the Act of Incorporation providing that no religious catechism or formulary which is distinctive of any particular denomination shall be taught, and that no attempt shall be made to attach students to any particular denomination. When the college was opened in a house at Glebe Point, leased until the permanent buildings should be completed, the students numbered four. The present buildings were opened in the early part of 1894, and at the close of that year there were eight students, while in the latter part of 1895 there were ten. There is, however, accommodation for twenty-six resident students. The Government granted £5,000 towards the erection of buildings, but affords no endowment to the college, though it pays the salary of the Principal.

Denominational High Schools and Colleges.

All the principal religious bodies provide high schools and colleges where students may be educated according to the precepts of their various beliefs, and prepared to compete for University honours or the various professions which they may adopt. Evidence of the progress of superior denominational education in the Colony may be seen in the magnificent college buildings which surround the city, among which may be cited Newington College, the colleges of the Marist Brothers and the Jesuit Fathers at Hunter's Hill and Riverview, the old-established King's School at Parramatta, the North Sydney Church of England Grammar School, the Presbyterian Ladies' College at Croydon, and a host of other first-class establishments erected under the patronage of the various religious bodies.

Technical Education.

Public attention was so strongly directed in the years which followed the great world exhibition of 1851 to the necessity of providing the artisan classes, and the people generally, with the means of obtaining

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a scientific knowledge of the various handicrafts, that technical schools sprang up in various parts of England, some being under the direct patronage of the State, while others were founded by the wealthy trade societies, or guilds, of the great English cities. The excellent results following the establishment of these schools could not fail to attract attention in the colonies, where a sound and practical knowledge of the manual arts is of paramount necessity. The foundation of the New South Wales Technical School was due in great measure to the efforts of a few gentlemen connected with the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts, and as far back as 1873 it was decided to establish a Technical College affiliated to that institution, with the object of improving the scientific knowledge of Australian artisans. In the year 1878 a sum of £2,000 was granted by Parliament towards the organization of a Technical College, and for five years the work of the institution was carried on in connection with the School of Arts. In 1883, however, a board was appointed by the Government to take over its management, and the Technical College became thenceforth a State institution. Towards the end of 1889 the Board was dissolved, and the Technical College came under the direct control of the Minister of Public Instruction.

The course of instruction, under the present constitution of the Technical College, comprises classes in agriculture, art, architecture chemistry, geology and mineralogy, mechanical engineering, physics, sanitary engineering, electrical engineering, lithography and photo-lithography, mine surveying, metalliferous mining, and wool sorting and other training in connection with sheep and wool; and these classes are subdivided into sub-classes as may be warranted by circumstances.

The college is open to both male and female students, and in 1894 there were 191 classes in operation, of which 92 were in Sydney and suburbs, 87 in various country towns, and 12 in connection with public schools. The teaching staff consisted of 10 lecturers, 5 resident masters in charge of branch schools, 37 salaried teachers, 15 assistant teachers, and 22 teachers to whom no salary was paid, but who received fees. The enrolment of students amounted to 6,543 in all, 3,464 of whom were in Sydney and suburbs, and 2,500 in the country, while 579 represented the enrolment of scholars from public schools. The number of individual students was 4,928, being a decrease of 734 as compared with the number for 1893. The total average weekly attendance was 3,183. At the annual examinations 2,457 students presented themselves, of whom 1,644 passed—an average of 66·9 per cent.

The Technical College is now fairly established, and its benefits are already being felt and appreciated, whilst the future has every promise of still greater usefulness. A site for the College was secured by the Government at Ultimo, on which a building suitable for its requirements has been erected. This building provides the necessary workshops, and these are fitted with the requisite tools and apparatus.

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In 1894 the State expenditure on technical education amounted to £21,215. Of this amount, £4,889 was paid on account of technological museums, and of the balance £16,326 was spent on the Technical College and branch schools. Salaries (administrative) absorbed £1,450 and £8,599 was paid to lecturers and teachers. Apparatus and fittings cost £615, while £296 went for rent. The sum of £3,278 was received as fees from pupils, in addition to £20,000 from the Treasury, on account of the Parliamentary vote for 1894. The cost to the State per student, which in 1889 reached £6 15s. 4d., was in 1894 reduced to £3 6s. 10d.

Reformatories

In addition to the purely educational establishments, the State maintains four reformatories or disciplinary institutions, besides a home for crippled and delicate lads who have become inmates of charitable institutions. For girls there are the Industrial School at Parramatta, and the Shaftesbury Reformatory, near South Head; and for boys, the nautical school-ship Sobraon and the Carpentarian Reformatory. At the Parramatta institution the total enrolment of girls during the year was 163, and the new admissions up to the 31st December last were 55, of whom 31 were under and 24 over 14 years of age. The cost of maintaining the school in 1894 was £2,797. The Shaftesbury Reformatory was established for the reception of young women under sentence—a wise provision, for by these means were avoided the alternatives of sending the offenders to the institution at Parramatta, where their influence and example might have a baneful effect on more youthful minds, or of consigning them to gaol. The institution has now been converted into a receiving-house for State children, with a separate division for reformatory purposes, of which division there were two inmates at the close of 1894. The want of a reformatory for criminal youths was much felt for many years; but in the early part of 1894 the Government acquired the Brush Farm Estate, and portion of the land was speedily utilised, a section of the area in the municipality of Dundas being set apart as a Boy's Home of the character already mentioned, superseding a similar institution at Rydalmere; while upon another section of the estate, coming within the boundaries of Eastwood, the Carpentarian Reformatory was opened in August, 1895. To this institution are sent boys who have been convicted in the lower or higher Courts, and whom it is desired to keep apart from such persons as they would have to associate with if sent to gaol. In addition to being subjected to proper discipline, the boys are taught farming, carpentering, bootmaking, and blacksmiths' work. Towards the close of 1895 there were 25 lads housed in the Reformatory. The Boys' Home, Dundas, had 26 inmates at the close of 1894. On the "Sobraon" 521 boys were dealt with during the year ended 30th April, 1894, of whom 312 were

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on board at the beginning of the year, and 209 had been admitted since. The number discharged during the year was 157, so that, allowing for 1 death, the number remaining on board on 30th April, 1895, was 363. The daily average number on board during the year was 340. Up to the date last mentioned, there had been 3,194 boys admitted on board, of whom 2,831 had left. Favourable reports were received respecting more than 93 per cent. of the apprentices from the nautical school-ship who still remained under its supervision, and were liable to be brought back in case of misconduct. The management of the institution is excellent, and its cost to the State during 1894 was £8,915. The results obtained in the above-mentioned establishments have been of a very successful character, many children having been reclaimed from a depraved life, or rescued from unhappy surroundings, and turned out, after a course of some years' training, useful members of society.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES, ETC.

In a young country such as New South Wales, where most of the people are engaged in the development of its material resources, the existence of a leisured class, or one devoted to the pursuit of science, is hardly to be looked for. Nevertheless it is satisfactory to find that the higher aims of science are far from being neglected. As far back as the year 1821, a scientific society under the title of the Philosophical Society of Australasia was founded in Sydney, and after experiencing many vicissitudes of fortune was transformed in 1866 into, and afterwards incorporated under the title of, the Royal Society of New South Wales. The society is now in a flourishing condition, counting amongst its members some of the most eminent men in the Colony. Its object is to forward the advancement of science in Australia, and favour original research in all subjects of scientific, artistic, and philosophical interest, which may further the development of the resources of Australia, draw attention to its productions, or illustrate its natural history. The proceedings include papers of the greatest interest on important scientific questions, especially those whose solution is of Australian interest.

The study of the botany and natural history of Australia has attracted many enthusiastic students, and the Linnæan Society of New South Wales was established for the special purpose of furthering the advancement of these particular sciences. The society is housed in a commodious building at Elizabeth Bay, one of the most beautiful spots near the city, and possesses a library and museum. It has been liberally endowed by the late Hon. Sir William Macleay, who, not content with being one of its most munificent supporters was also an indefatigable worker in the field of science. The society's

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proceedings are published at regular intervals, and contain many valuable papers, together with excellent illustrations of objects of natural history.

Among the other scientific societies are the New South Wales Zoological Society, inaugurated in 1879; a branch of the British Medical Association, founded in 1881; and a branch of the British Astronomical Association, whose first meeting was held in 1895. The Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Royal Geographical Society of Australia, also have transactions in New South Wales as well as in the other Colonies.

The Sydney Observatory is numbered among the institutions of a scientific and educational character which the Colony liberally supports. Situated in a commanding position, it is admirably fitted for the purpose it is intended to serve. The present building was erected in 1856 at the instance of Sir William Denison, then Governor of the Colony, who took a great interest in scientific pursuits. The Government Astronomer has under him a complete staff of assistants, and during the year 1894 a sum of £3,989 was expended in connection with the institution. Meteorological observations have received special attention, as befits such an important subject in a country whose prosperity depends so much upon climate. When the present Astronomer took office in 1870, there were in the Colony only six stations, and observations on the climate, rainfall, and other meteorological phenomena were necessarily very limited in character. At the end of 1894 the number of stations had been increased to 1,134. Rain gauges have also been established at most of the sheep and cattle stations of the interior, with a result which is highly satisfactory. The light thrown on the true characteristics of the climate, especially of that part of the Colony remote from the sea coast, has tended to modify the notion long current as to its unfitness for agricultural as well as pastoral settlement.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

The Public Library of New South Wales was established, under the designation of the Free Public Library, on the 1st October, 1869, when the building and books of the Australian Subscription Library were purchased by the Government. The books thus acquired formed the nucleus of the present library. The number of volumes originally purchased was about 16,000, and on the 31st December, 1894, they had increased to 104,140, including those in the lending branch or lent to country libraries. The lending branch was established in 1877 to meet a growing public want, and under the present system any person may, on the recommendation of a clergyman, magistrate, or other responsible person, obtain under certain simple regulations the loan

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of any of the works on the shelves, free of charge. The scope of this institution was further extended by the introduction of a system by which country libraries and Mechanics' Institutes may obtain on loan works of a select kind, which in many instances would be too expensive for them to purchase on account of the slender funds at their disposal. Under this system, boxes are made up containing from 60 to 100 books, and forwarded to the country libraries on application, to be returned or exchanged within four months. This system was initiated in August, 1883, and has been carried on successfully ever since. In the course of the year 1894, 155 boxes, containing 12,380 volumes, were forwarded to 84 institutions, some of them at considerable distances from the metropolis. All the charges in connection with the despatch and return of the books are defrayed by the State, and the system in vogue in New South Wales is the most liberal of its kind in existence.

The reference department of the Public Library of New South Wales contains 74,912 volumes, and the lending branch 23,410. The country libraries were, on the 31st December, 1892, in possession of 5,818 volumes, lent under the above-mentioned system, the total number of books and pamphlets, the property of this institution, being 104,140, classified as under:—

Synopsis of Classification.	Reference Department.	Lending Branch.	Country Libraries.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Natural Philosophy, Science, and the Arts	9,563	3,856	1,310	14,729
History, Chronology, Antiquities, and Mythology	6,704	3,256	1,166	11,126
Biography and Correspondence	4,850	3,843	1,435	10,128
Geography, Topography, Voyages and Travels, etc.	7,028	3,420	1,047	11,495
Periodical and Serial Literature	21,830	.....	9	21,839
Jurisprudence, Political economy, Social Science, etc.	4,980	1,044	143	6,167
Theology, Moral and Mental Philosophy, and Education	4,592	1,408	160	6,160
Poetry and the Drama	2,707	871	127	3,705
Miscellaneous Literature and Collected Works	5,826	*5,712	419	11,957
Works of Reference and Philology	4,832	.....	2	4,834
Pamphlets	2,000	.....	.....	2,000
Total	74,912	23,410	5,818	104,140

* Including 2,623 volumes of Fiction.

The popularity of the Public Library of New South Wales is clearly proved by the number of persons availing themselves of the privileges which it affords. The increase has been very regular, as will be seen in the following statement showing the number of visits to the library,

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rising from 59,786 in 1870 to 209,099 in 1894, 77,568 of which were visits to the lending branch :—

1870	59,786	1882 (eleven months)	133,731
1871	60,165	1883	155,431
1872	48,817	1884 (eleven months)	161,877
1873	76,659	1885	165,715
1874 (eleven months)	57,962	1886	168,685
1875	66,900	1887	139,203*
1876	72,724	1888	149,425
1877 (Lending Branch first opened)	124,688*	1889	132,983
		1890	155,822
1878	117,047	1891	173,205
1879 (Exhibition open)	152,036	1892	197,255
1880	134,462	1893	216,089
1881	136,272	1894	209,099

* Reference Library closed for three months on account of removal.

Besides the 209,099 visits recorded for 1894, no less than 121,332 were paid to the newspaper room. This room became an adjunct to the lending branch of the library in February, 1895. It was formerly attached to the reference department. Although the lending branch contains but 23,410 volumes, the total number of times when books were issued during the year was not less than 89,217, and the number of persons availing themselves of the privilege of borrowing was 5,986, so that on an average each book was taken nearly four times, and each person to whom a permit was granted used nearly fifteen volumes during the year. As usual, works of fiction were extensively read, each of the 2,623 novels in the branch having been issued more than six times during the year. The number of volumes of each class taken out was as follows :—

Synopsis of Classification.	No. of volumes used.
Natural Philosophy, Science, and the Arts	9,855
History, Chronology, Antiquities, and Mythology	8,911
Biography and Correspondence	8,394
Geography, Topography, Voyages and Travels, etc.	13,865
Jurisprudence, Political Economy, Social Science, etc.	2,036
Theology, Moral and Mental Philosophy, and Education	3,446
Poetry and the Drama	2,626
Miscellaneous Literature and Collected Works	23,015
Prose Fiction	17,069
Total	89,217

During 1886 and 1887 considerable extensions were made to the premises of the Public Library of New South Wales, which had become much too small for the accommodation of the public, and the proper

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housing of the books. It was at length decided to pull down the old building in Macquarie-street, and a contract was made about the middle of 1887 for rebuilding a large portion of the Library at a cost of £10,455. This work was progressing throughout the year 1889, and the new building was opened to the public in April, 1890. The Public Library of New South Wales is now one of the most convenient in Australia.

The institution forms a separate department, under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction, and its cost to the State during 1894 was as follows:—

	£
Buildings, Repairs, etc.	95
Books	2,487
Salaries	4,683
Maintenance	1,213
Total	£8,478

Besides the Public Library, which is situated in Sydney, there are smaller libraries established in the principal population centres throughout the Colony. These libraries may be broadly classed under two heads—Schools of Arts, receiving an annual subvention in proportion to the amount of monetary support accorded by the public; and Free Libraries, established in connection with municipalities. Those of the former class are far the more numerous. Under the provisions of the Municipalities Act of 1867 any municipality may establish and maintain a Free Library, and where such is done the Council of the Municipality is entitled, for the purchase of books, to the sum of £200 if the library is available for the use of a population of 1,000, or to £100 where the population to whom the library would be accessible reaches 300 persons. The number of volumes in the various public libraries, excluding the Public Library of New South Wales, is estimated at about 245,000.

NATIONAL ART GALLERY.

The National Art Gallery was first instituted in 1871 in connection with the New South Wales Academy of Art. It was reopened as the National Art Gallery in 1880, and is now situated in the Outer Domain, in a convenient and well-lighted building, which, however, is at present unfinished as regards the exterior. Extensions to the building are about to be made, Parliament having voted a sum of money for the purpose. The Gallery contains an excellent collection of paintings and statuary, comprising some of the most famous works of the best modern artists of the old world, and includes several very valuable gifts from private persons. Like the other national institutions of New South Wales, the Gallery

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is open on Sundays as well as week-days, and on the former and on public holidays the attendance is especially numerous. During 1894 the Gallery was visited by 273,757 persons, the average Sunday attendance being 2,011, and on week-days, 547. In the year mentioned a system of loan exchanges between the Art Galleries of Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide was introduced. By this arrangement six pictures were sent from Sydney to Melbourne, and the same number to Adelaide, an equal number being received from the Art Galleries in those cities. A further exchange took place in 1895. That the interests of art have benefited under the system is unquestionable. In July, 1895, a collection of Gallery pictures, supplemented by works from the Art Society of New South Wales, was loaned to Bathurst under the auspices of the Minister of Public Instruction. Another collection was loaned to Goulburn in the following month. Bathurst received 15 oil-paintings from the Art Gallery, and 10 oil-paintings and 9 water-colours from the Art Society; while Goulburn received 14 oil-paintings from the Art Gallery, and 6 oil-paintings and 11 water-colours from the Art Society. Both of these collections were lodged in the local Technological Museum, and the trustees of the Gallery are awaiting the completion of a new building for the Technical College and Technological Museum at Newcastle before they forward a collection of pictures to that town. Up to the end of 1894 the total expenditure on the National Art Gallery was £100,211, of which the sum of £81,688 was expended on works of art. The disbursements for 1894 were:—

	£
For works of art	2,688
For maintenance, including freight, frames, repairs, and insurance	498
For salaries	1,136
Total cost to the State	£4,322

MUSEUMS.

The Australian Museum, which is the oldest institution of the kind in Australia, occupies a conspicuous site in the centre of Sydney, facing one of the principal parks. The collections contain carefully-selected specimens of the principal objects of natural history found in kindred establishments, and also a most complete collection of zoological specimens of distinctly Australian character. The popularity of the institution is evinced by the increasing number of persons by whom it is visited. The Museum is open to the public every day except Monday, and on Sundays the visitors are very numerous. The number of visitors during 1894 was 120,570, the daily average being 660 on Sundays, and 261 on week days. The expenses in connection with the

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institution amounted to £5,498, of which £240 was expended on account of purchase, collection, and carriage of specimens, and purchase of books.

The Technological Museum, formerly situated in the Outer Domain, has been removed to a fine new building at Ultimo, which has been erected specially for the purpose. This museum was instituted at the close of 1879 on the initiative of the Trustees of the Australian Museum; but the whole collection of some 9,000 specimens was totally lost in 1882 by the Garden Palace fire. Strenuous efforts were at once made to replace the lost collection, and in December, 1883, the museum was again opened to the public, and now contains interesting and valuable series of specimens illustrating the various stages of many manufactures, and an excellent collection of natural products. The popularity of this institution may be gathered from the fact that 89,695 persons visited it during 1894.

There are local Technological Museums at Goulburn, Bathurst, West Maitland, and Newcastle, which were visited by 107,729 persons during the year, an increase of 46,896 over the attendance of the previous year. The sum of £4,889 was expended on the various institutions of this nature (including the one in Sydney) during 1894.

Connected with the Department of Mines and Agriculture is a Mining and Geological Museum, housed in an iron building in the Outer Domain. The museum is open to the public on week-days, admission being free.

At Albury a Free and Industrial Museum has been established. It is of an educational character, and is supported by voluntary contributions. The State grants the use of a building formerly used for public school purposes. In twelve months ending about the close of 1894 there were 3,000 visitors to the museum.

RELIGION.

In the eyes of the State all religions are equal in New South Wales, but during the early days of the Colony such was not the case. New South Wales was originally essentially a Crown Colony, and the Church establishment as it existed in England was naturally transplanted to these shores. Ecclesiastical monopoly nevertheless only continued for a short time, and the countenance and support of the State were eventually extended, during the governorship of Sir Richard Bourke, to the principal religious bodies which then existed—the Anglicans, Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, and Wesleyan Methodists. To the clergy of each of these denominations the Government granted what has usually been denominated State aid, which continued long after the old political system had passed away and had been replaced by Responsible Government. In 1862, however, an Act was passed limiting future payments to the clergy

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then actually in receipt of State aid. In the year following the passing of this Act the claims on the Government amounted to £32,372, and were thus distributed :—

Church of England	£17,967	Presbyterian	£2,873
Roman Catholic Church...	8,748	Wesleyan Methodist	2,784

Year by year the sum payable has been lessening, owing chiefly to the deaths of clergymen in receipt of State aid, so that in 1894 the payment by the State was £6,910, distributed as follows :—

Church of England	£3,521	Presbyterian	£644
Roman Catholic Church	2,058	Wesleyan Methodist	687

The payments to the clergy of different denominations are given for various periods since 1863. It will be observed that in some years the amounts paid were less than in succeeding years. This anomaly is due to the temporary stoppage of the stipends of clergymen who were absent from the Colony. The total payments made since 1863 amount to £527,731, of which £285,467 was paid to clergymen of the Church of England, £149,540 to Roman Catholics, £52,410 to Presbyterians, and £40,314 to Wesleyan Methodists :—

Year.	Church of England.	Roman Catholic Church.	Presbyterian.	Wesleyan Methodist.	Total—All denominations.
	£	£	£	£	£
1863	17,967	8,748	2,873	2,784	32,372
1865	14,111	7,430	3,090	1,572	26,203
1870	12,386	6,583	2,180	1,573	22,722
1875	10,725	5,608	1,626	1,372	19,331
1880	7,739	3,892	1,702	1,716	15,049
1885	5,791	3,000	1,039	1,136	10,966
1890	5,556	2,600	702	900	9,758
1891	5,347	2,570	702	875	9,494
1892	4,926	2,312	702	750	8,690
1893	4,260	2,300	702	750	8,012
1894	3,521	2,058	644	687	6,910

The number of persons entitled to State aid during 1894 was 45—22 clergymen of the Church of England, 13 Roman Catholics, 5 Presbyterians, and 5 Wesleyan Methodists.

At the Census of 1891 the number of adherents to each of the denominations, with the clergy registered for the celebration of marriages, was as shown below. The table also shows the average number of adherents

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to each denomination compared with the number of clergymen in active service:—

Denomination.	Clergy.	Adherents.	Proportion of adherents to clergy.
Church of England	333	502,980	1,510
Other Episcopalians	1	95	95
Roman Catholic	295	286,895	973
Greek Church	.....	253	.....
Catholic (not defined)	.....	16	.....
Presbyterian Church of New South Wales	146	106,464	729
Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia	6	2,154	359
Other Presbyterians	4	772	193
Wesleyan Methodists	133	87,516	658
Primitive Methodists	29	20,354	702
Other Methodists	5	2,242	448
Baptist Union of N. S. Wales	27	12,344	457
Other Baptists	5	768	154
Congregational	65	24,089	371
Lutheran	5	7,950	1,590
Bible Christians	9	2,336	260
Church of Christ	5	2,042	408
Christian Brethren	.....	1,036	.....
Unitarian	1	1,329	1,329
Salvation Army	10	10,315	1,032
Other Christian sects	8	2,773	476
Protestants (not defined)	.....	3,787	.....
Hebrews	3	5,484	1,828
Buddhists	.....	10,110	.....
Mahometan	.....	528	.....
Agnostic, Infidel, etc.	.....	727	.....
Freethinkers	.....	5,469	.....
Other sects	.....	1,035	.....
No denomination	.....	4,927	.....
No religion	.....	3,136	.....
Object to State religion	.....	11,237	.....
Not stated, or ill-defined	.....	2,791	.....
Total	1,090	1,123,954	.....

In the figures just given the aboriginal population, to the number of 8,020, have been excluded, and in calculating the average number of adherents to each clergyman the Christian Brethren have been included with other Christian sects. The heading just mentioned comprises, among others, 23 Nonconformists, 153 Christian Israelites, 16 Moravians, 370 New Church, 345 Catholic Apostolic Church, 132 Calvinists, 247 Quakers, 548 Christadelphians, and 307 Latter-day Saints, besides 302 persons who call themselves Unsectarian Christians. Taking the whole population (less aborigines), there were 1,031 persons on an average to each clergyman.

The number of persons attending Divine Service on Sundays averaged 390,807 for the year 1894. This number represents the attendance of

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adults only; if school children were included the number would be about 500,000. When the sparseness of the population in some parts of the country is considered the church attendance will appear very large, and though apparently less than found in the colony of Victoria, it is proportionately much greater than in England. The number of adult attendants on Divine Service in 1890 was returned at 300,890; for 1885 it was 263,379; and for 1881 213,044; so that there has been a gradual increase, fairly keeping pace with the population. The relative numbers of each denomination in attendance have remained very much the same for several years past. In 1881 the Church of England had the largest attendance, but from 1884 the Church of Rome has taken the lead.

The figures showing the attendance at Divine Service on Sundays for each of the principal denominations are given hereunder. Sunday-school children are not included. The authorities of the Salvation Army return the number of attendants at their services as 52,250, whereas the Census returns showed 10,312 only as the number of soldiers enrolled. It is very probable, therefore, that a great proportion of those who attend the Army services are nominally members of other denominations:—

Denomination.	Number of distinct persons attending Divine Service.	Proportion of Denominations attending Divine Service.
		Per cent.
Church of England	93,939	17·0
Roman Catholic	97,115	30·7
Presbyterian	42,938	35·7
Wesleyan Methodist	67,675	70·2
Other Methodists	10,305	41·4
Congregationalist	12,278	46·4
Baptist	7,880	54·4
Salvation Army	*52,250	100·0
Other Denominations	6,427	8·7
Total	390,807	31·6

* Figures of previous year.

The Church of England is the largest religious denomination in the Colony, whether judged by the number of professed adherents, the number of clergy, or the number of buildings used for Divine Service. During the year 1894 there were 639 churches belonging to this denomination, and 949 buildings and dwellings used for public worship, accommodating altogether 129,625 persons; and the attendance of distinct persons, counting only adults, was 93,939. The number of clergy registered under Acts 19 Vic. Nos. 30 and 34, for the celebration of marriages, was 331. Besides the clergy regularly ordained, there were 233 laymen licensed to perform service. The Church provides a

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parsonage in 194 parishes, besides 23 residences which are not church property. The approximate number of services performed during the year, including week-day services, was 62,076. The number of communicants affords a special test of the progress of Church membership. The record for 1892 was 23,046; for 1893, 25,104; and for 1894, 26,517. The baptisms performed in 1894 numbered 13,902, and the rite of confirmation was administered to 1,538 males and 2,494 females. The Church of England in the Colony is governed by a Metropolitan, who is also Primate of Australia and Tasmania, and five other Bishops, whose sees are Bathurst, Goulburn, Newcastle, Grafton and Armidale, and Riverina. By an Act passed in 1881, provision was made for the creation of corporate bodies of trustees, in which property belonging to the Church of England may be vested, and trusts for various dioceses have been formed under the Act. They are entitled to hold, on behalf of the Church, all real and personal property which may be assigned to them by grant, will, or otherwise.

The Roman Catholic Church is presided over by the Cardinal Archbishop of Sydney, assisted by a Coadjutor Bishop, under whom are the suffragan bishops of Bathurst, Goulburn, Grafton, Maitland, Armidale, and Wilcannia, the whole Colony forming an ecclesiastical province. The following Religious Orders were established in New South Wales in the years given:—*Priests.*—Society of Mary (Marist Fathers), 1845; Society of Jesus (Jesuits), 1878; Franciscan Fathers, 1879; Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (Redemptorists), 1882; Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, 1885; Fathers of the Congregation of the Mission (Vincentians), 1885; Passionist Fathers, 1887. *Religious Brothers.*—Little Brothers of Mary (Marist Brothers), 1872; Patrician Brothers, 1886; Christian Brothers, 1887. *Nuns.*—Sisters of Charity, 1838; Benedictine Nuns, 1848; Sisters of the Good Samaritan, 1857; Sisters of Mercy, 1865; Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart, 1880; Religious of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, 1882; Ursuline Nuns, 1882; Poor Clares, 1883; Sisters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, 1885; Carmelite Nuns, 1885; Nursing Sisters of the Little Company of Mary, 1885; Little Sisters of the Poor, 1886; Presentation Nuns, 1886; Sisters of Saint Brigid, 1887; Dominican Nuns, 1891; and Institute of the Blessed Virgin, 1892. There were, in 1894, 309 priests licensed to celebrate marriages. The number of Roman Catholic Churches properly so called was 466; besides these, there were 790 buildings or dwellings used for Divine Service. The accommodation afforded by the churches amounted to about 69,331 sittings, with standing accommodation for 39,280 persons in addition, and the attendance of distinct persons, counting only adults, was 97,115. A return issued by the Church authorities gives the number of religious brothers as 179, and the number of nuns as 1,510.

The various branches of the Presbyterian Church in the Colony had, during 1894, 263 churches used for public worship; there were also

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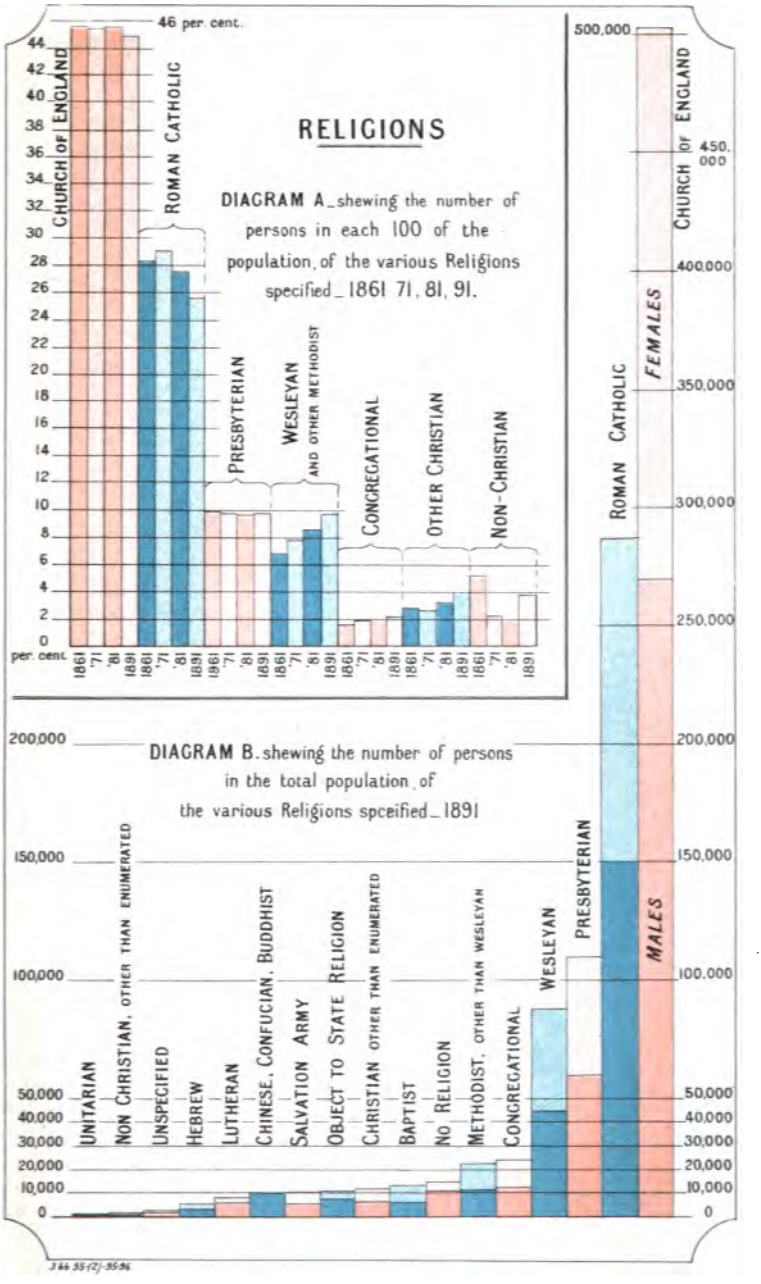

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515 public buildings or dwellings occasionally used for the same purpose. The number of ministers was 152, of whom 144 were connected with the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales, 4 with the Presbyterian Church, Synod of Eastern Australia; 2 with the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia, reconstituted Synod; 1 with the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia unattached, and 1 with the Presbyterian Church, unconnected. The accommodation provided in churches was 67,632 sittings, and the attendance numbered about 42,938, not including Sunday-school children. The Presbyterian Church of New South Wales had 10,101 communicants, and administered 2,006 baptisms during the year. For the purposes of this Church, the Colony is divided into fourteen Presbyteries, each comprising a number of separate charges, to each of which a Minister is appointed. The management of the affairs of the Church is controlled by a General Assembly, which sits annually, and consists of Ministers and Elders from the Charges within the different Presbyteries. It is presided over by a Moderator, who is elected by the Presbyteries, which also nominate representatives to the Federal Assembly. The first Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales was held in 1865. By Act of Parliament the Assembly has power to grant permission to trustees to mortgage Church property, and trustees are authorised to hold property for the Church generally.

The Wesleyan Methodists in Australia received from the English Conference, in 1884, an independent constitution. There are eight districts into which the Wesleyan Methodist communion is divided. Throughout the Colony there are 413 churches and 471 other preaching places, with sittings to the number of 93,917 in all. The denomination has in its service 149 regular clergy and 517 local preachers. The number of church members is said to be 10,162, of whom 1,146 are communicants; and the attendance of adherents at Divine Service is not less than 67,675, not including children. The Wesleyan Methodist Church Property Act of 1889 provides for the appointment of trustees to hold all lands acquired by gift, devise, purchase, or otherwise, under a deed, a model of which forms a schedule to the Act; and the measure gives power to a majority of the trustees to mortgage, exchange, or lease Church properties. It also provides for the appointment of a Custodian and an Acting Custodian of Deeds, who are to be notified by the President of the Conference, and their names published in the *Government Gazette*, and registered in the Land Titles Office. The Tonga District and South Sea Missions are attached to the New South Wales Conference.

The Primitive Methodists, United Methodists, and other Methodists have 98 churches and 25 other buildings, and 41 clergy; the accommodation provided will seat 19,070 persons; and the attendance at Divine Service is about 10,300.

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The Congregational Church has 61 churches, as well as 47 buildings or dwellings used for worship; and the sittings provided will accommodate 21,465 persons. The clergy licensed to celebrate marriages number 60, and the attendance at Divine Service on Sundays averages about 12,280.

The various Baptist Churches in the Colony have 29 licensed ministers, with 32 churches and 59 school-houses or other buildings devoted to public worship; the Sunday attendance averages 7,880 persons, but there is sitting accommodation for 12,719. The Baptist Union of New South Wales is not incorporated, and so cannot legally hold property in trust for the denomination. Annual sessions, with half-yearly assemblies, are held, presided over by a Chairman, who is elected annually. For several sessions a draft constitution has been under the consideration of the Union, which, amongst other matters, provides that all properties which now belong or may hereafter accrue to the Union shall be held under a Model Trust Deed, by Trustees to be duly appointed.

The Salvation Army was established in Australia in 1882. Melbourne was made the chief centre for Australasia under the command of a Commissioner, and Sydney was constituted the headquarters for New South Wales, with a separate chief officer, who is termed Colonel, in command, all officers and members bearing military titles and designations. The various ranks are Commissioner, Colonel, Brigadier, Major, Staff-Captain, Captain, Adjutant, Ensign, Lieutenant, and Cadet. The rank and file consist of sergeant-majors, sergeants, and soldiers, There are also treasurers and secretaries to corps. Persons who are in sympathy with the Salvation Army, but who have not subscribed to the "Articles of War"—which combine a confession of faith and a pledge against the use of intoxicating liquors and baneful drugs—form an Auxiliary League and contribute to the funds of the Army. Persons desirous of membership are publicly received, after one month's probation and subscription to the "Articles of War," and are then attached to the corps stationed nearest their place of residence. The Army has only 10 officers licensed to celebrate marriages, but has 209 buildings used for service, accommodating 40,186 persons. The number of persons attending Sunday service is stated by the authorities to be 52,250.

Besides those above enumerated, there are other distinct religious bodies, for the most part Protestant denominations, with clergy licensed by the State to celebrate marriages. The number of clergy ministering to these in 1894 was 37; the churches, school-houses, and public buildings used for Divine Service numbered 79; and the attendance was about 6,427 persons.

The number of registered ministers belonging to all faiths was 1,241, and the churches numbered 2,049, in addition to which there were 3,067 dwellings or other buildings used for public worship. The accommodation provided would seat about 503,965 persons. The average attendance was about 390,800.

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Nearly all the religious bodies maintain Sunday-schools. The attendance of children at the Sunday-schools of the leading denominations, with the number of schools and teachers during 1894, was :—

Denomination.	No. of schools.	Number of teachers.			Average attendance of scholars.		
		Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Church of England	596	1,196	2,837	4,033	15,670	20,842	36,512
Roman Catholic	505	322	1,188	1,510	10,094	13,918	24,012
Presbyterian	248	576	1,058	1,634	5,261	6,852	12,113
Wesleyan Methodist	356	1,496	1,744	3,240	10,924	13,265	24,189
Other Methodists	100	528	512	1,040	3,391	4,146	7,537
Congregational	70	369	451	820	2,662	3,418	6,080
Baptist	42	179	203	382	1,259	1,593	2,852
Salvation Army	93	95	130	225	854	1,061	1,915
Other Denominations	39	107	140	247	910	1,010	1,920
Total	2,049	4,868	8,263	13,131	51,025	66,105	117,130

The attendance shown in the preceding table amounts to 47 per cent. of the total children between the ages of 7 and 15 years, both inclusive, at which ages children generally attend Sunday-schools. The number of Sunday-schools and teachers, and the attendance during each of the past ten years, were :—

Year.	Number of schools.	Number of teachers.	Average attendance of Scholars.		
			Male.	Female.	Total.
1885	1,513	9,986	37,991	46,531	84,522
1886	1,596	10,759	47,307	56,354	103,661
1887	1,614	10,749	48,333	58,999	107,332
1888	1,724	11,267	50,556	61,735	112,291
1889	1,832	11,568	52,778	63,896	116,674
1890	1,840	12,019	54,520	67,365	121,885
1891	1,887	12,169	54,932	68,592	123,524
1892	1,916	12,260	51,739	66,673	118,412
1893	1,969	12,180	51,928	66,187	118,115
1894	2,049	13,131	51,025	66,105	117,130

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PART XXV.

SOCIAL CONDITION AND CHARITIES.

IN one particular New South Wales, in common with all the provinces of Australasia, differs greatly from other countries, especially those of the Old World. Wealth is more widely distributed, and the violent contrast between rich and poor, which seems so peculiar a phase of old-world civilization, finds no parallel in these southern lands. That there is poverty in the colonies is unhappily true, but no one in Australasia is born to poverty, and that hereditary pauper class, which forms so grave a menace to the freedom of many States, has, therefore, no existence here.

It is estimated that in the United Kingdom seven persons in every hundred possess property to the amount of £100; whereas in the colonies the proportion is not less than 12·3 per cent. This bare statement shows the vast difference in the conditions of life in Australasia and in the richest country of Europe. No poor rate is levied in the colonies, and although from time to time the assistance of the State is claimed by, and granted to, able-bodied men who are unable to find employment, that assistance has hitherto taken the form of wages and rations allowed for work specially provided by the State to meet a condition of the labour market which is certainly abnormal.

The chief efforts of the authorities, as regards charity, are directed towards the rescue of the young from criminal companionship and temptation to crime, the support of the aged and infirm, the care of the imbecile or insane, and the subsidising of private charity for the cure of the sick and injured, and the amelioration of want. Even where the Government grants aid for philanthropic purposes, the management of the institutions supervising the expenditure is in private hands; and in addition to State-aided institutions there are numerous private charities, whose efforts for the relief of those whom penury, sickness, or misfortune has afflicted are beyond all praise.

The rescue of the young from crime is attempted in two ways—first, by means of Industrial Schools and Reformatories, which take care of children who have been abandoned by their natural guardians, or who are likely, from the poverty or incapacity of their parents, to be so

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neglected as to render them liable to lapse into crime; and, secondly, by sequestering children who have already committed crime, or whose parents or guardians find themselves unable to control them.

Public Hospitals.

In the part of this volume dealing with mortality it is pointed out that the number of deaths caused by accident is very great. This arises from the peculiar nature of the occupations in which a large proportion of the adult male population is employed. Though New South Wales has long been settled, its resources are by no means developed, and very many men are at work far away from the home comforts of everyday life, and from home attendance in case of sickness or injury. Hospitals are therefore absolutely essential under the conditions of life in the country districts of the Colony, and they are accordingly found in every important country town. At the close of the year 1894 there were 110 hospitals or infirmaries in operation or nearing completion in the Colony, as shown in the following table:—

Hospitals.	Metropolitan.	Country.	Total.
Subsidised	9	96	105
Non-subsidised	2	1	3
Privately endowed	1	.....	1
Government	1	.....	1
Total	13	97	110

The number of beds in these institutions was 2,855, of which 2,506 were intended for ordinary cases, and 349 for infectious cases. The average cubic space per bed varied, in the metropolitan area, between 1,787 feet in St. Vincent's Hospital, which is conducted by the Sisters of Charity, and 682 feet in the Hospital for Sick Children at the Glebe; and in the country, between about 3,500 feet in the institution at Casino and 616 feet in that at Bingara. During the year, 23,582 persons were under treatment as indoor patients. Of this number, 1,554 remained from the previous year, and 22,028 were admitted during 1894. There were discharged 19,505 persons, either as cured or relieved or at their own request, and 754 as past all human assistance, while 1,682 died. The number remaining in hospital at the close of the year was, therefore,

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1,641. The following statement shows the number of admissions, discharges, and deaths for the past ten years :—

Year.	Total Patients under treatment.	Number Discharged as cured, etc.	Deaths.		Number of Patients at the close of year.
			Number.	Per cent. under treatment.	
1885	12,793	10,449	1,329	10·4	1,015
1886	13,115	10,825	1,249	9·5	1,041
1887	13,438	11,140	1,190	8·9	1,108
1888	15,176	12,569	1,424	9·4	1,183
1889	16,865	14,077	1,477	8·8	1,311
1890	17,041	14,386	1,361	8·0	1,294
1891	19,096	16,183	1,577	8·3	1,336
1892	19,214	16,372	1,440	7·5	1,402
1893	20,424	17,461	1,498	7·3	1,465
1894	23,582	20,259	1,682	7·1	1,641

The number remaining at the close of the year may be taken as representing the average number resident. It will be seen from the preceding table that the increase in the number of patients, though rather larger in 1894 than usual, has been fairly regular, so that the proportion of the population to be found in hospitals is about the same in each year, the average in 1894 being 1·3 per thousand.

The death rate per 100 persons under treatment during the past ten years was 8·3, while the rate for 1894 was 7·1, or 1·2 below the decennial average. The rate for each year will be found in the preceding table. The death rate of hospitals in New South Wales, compared with those of Europe, is undoubtedly very high. The number of fatal cases is swollen by the inclusion of the deaths of persons already moribund when admitted, and of persons in the last stage of phthisis. It has elsewhere been pointed out that deaths from accidents form a very considerable proportion of the total deaths registered, a circumstance due to the nature of the occupations of the people, and the dangers incidental to pioneering enterprise. A large majority of the accidents that occur, when not immediately fatal, are treated in the hospitals; and, indeed, these institutions, especially in country districts, are for the most part maintained for the treatment of surgical cases. When these circumstances are taken into consideration the cause of the apparent excess of deaths in the hospitals of the Colony will at once be understood.

Applications for admission into the metropolitan hospitals have to be made to the Government Medical Officer, at the depôt, at the top of King-street, and it is the duty of that officer to assign the cases to the different hospitals and asylums in accordance with the nature, severity, and special character of the ailments from which the patients are suffering, and the accommodation available at the various institutions.

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The number of applicants dealt with personally at the depôt during 1894 was 8,162. There were, in addition, 972 cases admitted, under Government orders, to the Coast and Metropolitan Hospitals, making the total number of applicants for Government orders 9,134, as compared with 8,813 in the preceding year. Of the applicants during 1894, 2,075 received orders for the Coast Hospital, 1,027 for the Prince Alfred Hospital, 873 for the Sydney Hospital, 279 for Moorcliff, and 65 for the Carrington Convalescent Hospital; whilst 2,308 were recommended for admission to the Asylums for the Infirm and Destitute, 1,976 received orders for outdoor treatment, and 132 obtained orders for trusses. There were 399 applicants, or 4·4 per cent. of the whole number, who were refused relief, as not being fit subjects for aid. It has to be borne in mind that these figures represent cases, not individuals. In some instances the same person has been in an institution several times during the year.

The amount expended by the State in the year 1894 for the maintenance of the sick poor was £13,171 9s. 4d., of which the Prince Alfred Hospital received £4,991 13s.; the Sydney Hospital, £4,095 12s. 10d.; the Moorcliff Hospital, £3,045 10s. 6d.; and the Carrington Convalescent Hospital, £1,038 13s. For the last four years the average amount paid by the Government for the maintenance of sick persons has been—at the Sydney Hospital, including Moorcliff, £6,654 per annum; at the Prince Alfred Hospital, £4,294 per annum; and at the Carrington Hospital, £722 per annum; making a total annual average cost of £11,670. These sums are in addition to the £4,000 voted to each of the principal hospitals on condition of an equal sum being subscribed by the general public, and £100 paid by the Government during 1894 towards the rent of Moorcliff, and £596 for a temporary nurses' residence in Bent-street. The total expenditure of the Government in connection with the hospitals in the Metropolitan area averaged, for the last four years, £38,500 per annum, the amount for 1894 being £33,879; while on the country hospitals the expenditure by the State totalled £36,211 for the last year. These amounts are irrespective of payments for attendance on aborigines; expenses attending special outbreaks of disease in country districts, which are met from the general medical vote; and the maintenance in the Asylums for the Infirm and Destitute of a large number of chronic and incurable hospital cases.

The mere mention of so liberal an expenditure by the Government for the relief of the sick might, without explanation, lead to a misapprehension with regard to the amount of destitution in the community. It should therefore be understood that out of the 9,134 persons who applied for hospital treatment at the Government expense or for admission to the Asylums for the Infirm and Destitute during the year 1894, only 2,697 were natives of New South Wales, while 638 came from the other Australasian Colonies. The natives of Great Britain and Ireland, however, numbered no less than 4,896, in addition to whom

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there were 903 other persons, including 67 Chinese and 71 Indians. It is rather remarkable that while the natives of the United Kingdom form less than a quarter of the total population of the Colony, they furnish, nevertheless, more than one half of those seeking hospital relief. The total number of applicants, excluding the natives of New South Wales, was 6,437, of whom 504 had been less than twelve months in the Colony, 341 less than six months, and 113 less than one month. It is not an infrequent occurrence to find patients who apply for hospital relief admit that they have arrived direct from a neighbouring colony, solely for the purpose of obtaining this relief. Many arrive in the last stage of phthisis, or in a condition of chronic ill-health, and the adoption of some legislation, such as exists in other Colonies, to prevent the influx of persons likely to become a charge upon the State is a pressing necessity.

Little exact information is to hand respecting the outdoor relief afforded by hospitals, this form of charity not being so important as indoor relief; nevertheless, the number of attendances during 1894 was 44,287, and estimating four attendances to each person, 11,072 persons were relieved.

Omitting from consideration the Government establishment at Little Bay, the expenditure in 1894 of all the hospitals of the Colony, for purposes other than building and repairs, was £99,500, representing an average of £34 17s. per bed. This sum is somewhat in excess of the truth, as a deduction cannot be made for out-patients. The average cost for each indoor patient treated was £4 4s. 4d. The subscriptions received from private persons amounted to £36,818, and the miscellaneous receipts, including payments by patients, were £19,275; in all, £56,093 from private sources and from patients. From the State the sum of £59,116 was received, so that the total revenue of hospitals from all sources was £115,209. The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure of these institutions for the year 1894:—

Revenue and Expenditure.	Metropolitan.	Country.	New South Wales.
Receipts—	£	£	£
Government aid	22,905	36,211	59,116
Private contributions	16,950	31,823	48,773
Other sources	3,280	4,040	7,320
Total receipts	43,135	72,074	115,209
Expenditure—			
Building and repairs	4,648	8,645	13,293
Maintenance	37,117	52,052	89,169
Miscellaneous	3,695	6,636	10,331
Total expenditure	45,460	67,333	112,793

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The expenditure in connection with the Little Bay Hospital has not been included above, being entirely in the hands of the Government. At this hospital, 2,332 patients were treated during the year; the average number resident daily was 176; and the average stay in hospital was 28 days. There were 94 deaths, and 1,465 patients were discharged cured, 520 relieved, and 89 unrelieved. The number of lepers under detention at the lazaret on 31st December, 1894, was 40, and at the end of 1895, 37. The expenditure on the Little Bay Hospital during 1894 was £10,974, so that the total expenditure of the State on hospitals amounted to £70,090, and the gross expenditure by the Government upon all hospitals and asylums, with the exception of asylums for the insane and Mission Stations for Aborigines, £200,298, or inclusive of those institutions, £315,034. This sum includes £34,967 granted to the State Children's Relief Department; £13,699 paid to support the asylum for old men at Liverpool; £9,891 for the asylum for the aged and infirm at Newington, Parramatta River; £22,332 for the two asylums and the cottage homes for married couples at Parramatta; £7,935 for the Benevolent Asylum, Sydney; and £8,601 for the Rookwood Asylum. In these last-mentioned asylums there were 3,365 beds. The number of inmates in each institution will be found in tables on pages 880 and 881, but, in addition, considerable aid is extended to the outside poor. Apart from medical advice and medicines, outdoor relief consists largely of supplies of provisions. Information showing the full extent of the relief thus afforded at all institutions is not available, but the goods gratuitously distributed at the Benevolent Asylum, Sydney, during the year 1894, were as follow:—Bread, 152,626 loaves; flour, 91,516 lb.; meat, 61,213 lb.; tea, 9,892 lb.; sugar, 39,668 lb.; sago, 3,494 lb.; rice, 2,412 lb.; oatmeal, 3,352 lb.; arrowroot, 42 lb.; raisins and currants, 1,580 lb.; and milk, 395 quarts. Boots, blankets, and other drapery goods, formed portion of the bounty distributed; and, in addition, a sum of money was granted in payment of rent allowances, so that many of the needy were assisted by the helping hand of this deserving charity in their own homes.

Besides hospitals properly so called, there exist various institutions for the reception of fallen women; for the treatment of the blind, and the deaf and dumb; for the relief of consumptives; for ministering to the wants of destitute women; for granting casual aid to indigent persons; for the help of discharged prisoners, and for many other purposes which rouse the charity of the people.

The Infants' Home, Ashfield; the Hospital for Sick Children, Glebe; the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind, Newtown, besides other institutions in different parts of the Colony, receive help from the State; but they are maintained principally by private contributions. The management of these, and, indeed, of almost all institutions for the relief of the sick, is in the hands of committees elected by persons subscribing towards their support. In addition to the above, there are

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several institutions under the control of the Roman Catholic body, and supported entirely by private charity. At the City Night Refuge and Soup Kitchen there were no less than 104,972 meals given during 1894, and shelter was provided in 48,980 instances.

Destitute Children.

The problem of dealing with destitute children and those liable from their environment to become criminal is naturally surrounded with very great difficulty, and its solution was attempted many years ago by the establishment of the orphanages at Parramatta, and the destitute children's asylum at Randwick, as well as the Vernon Training Ship for boys, and the Biloela Reformatory and Industrial School for girls. The system of crowding children in large establishments was rightly considered as open to many grave objections, and in 1880 a scheme of separate treatment was inaugurated. Accordingly an Act was passed by the Legislature, empowering the formation of a Board, to whose charge the destitute or neglected children of the Colony were entrusted.

The State Children's Relief Board commenced its operations on the 5th April, 1881, with 24 boys and 35 girls, or a total of 59 children. During the fourteen years that it has been in existence, the Board has dealt with no less than 6,673 children, who have been removed for boarding out from the State institutions of the Colony, and others partly supported by public contributions. Of that number, 3,499 children had been either discharged to their parents or otherwise removed from the control of the Board, so that there were remaining under its charge on the 5th April, 1895, 3,174, of whom 1,822 were boys and 1,352 were girls. Of these children, 2,094, or 1,167 boys and 927 girls, were boarded out to persons deemed to be eligible after strict inquiry by the Board. The rates of payment vary from 5s. to 10s. per week, the higher rates being paid for infants under one year, who require more than ordinary care. A strict supervision is exercised by the officers of the Board in order to see that the children are not ill-treated or neglected, and in addition to this there are voluntary lady visitors in all parts of the Colony who keep up a constant oversight upon these children of the State. Besides the boarded-out children, there were also, in April, 1895, 147 who had been adopted without payment, and who were, in the main, treated by their foster-parents as though they were their own kin; 56 of these adopted children were boys, and 91 were girls. Then there were 599 boys and 334 girls, or 933 children in all, who were apprenticed but were still under the control of the Board. It is asserted that the practical success of the boarding-out system is exemplified by the expansion shown in these figures. Upwards of twelve hundred children had grown up and been taught useful trades and profitable occupations, many of whom would otherwise have drifted into the criminal or pauper population.

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During the year, 1,705 applications were received by the Board for State Children. Of these applications, 1,200 were inquired into by the Inspectors attached to the department, with the result that 908 were approved of, and 292 were refused—in most cases because the character of the applicants did not appear to come up to the standard required by the Board. The system of placing delicate young children out to nurse with healthy matronly women in the country districts had been found to work well. In April, 1895, there were 96 such children under control, at a total cost of £2,080; and there were 124 children under the control of guardians, by whom they had been adopted. Of the apprentices, nearly all the girls were in domestic service, while over seven-eighths of the boys were with farmers. The total cost of managing this division during the twelve months, was £2,270, expended for inspection and clothing. Taken as a whole, the apprentices are turning out remarkably well, and it is very seldom there are any serious complaints either from the apprentices or from their guardians. At the close of April, 1895, there were 10 children in the depôt, 9 in hospitals, and 146 at the cottage homes for invalids at Parramatta and Mittagong. Although as many as 1,703 children passed through the Central Home at Paddington during the year, owing to the system of prompt removal to the country the average daily number at that institution was not more than 10. During the year, 9 boys and 10 girls died, and, in addition, 5 boys were accidentally drowned. It is claimed that the system pursued by the Board of extending to the dependent children of this country the privileges of family life and home training in place of the monotonous and artificial style of living in large asylums has been attended with successful results, and the cost to the State, equal to £14 6s. per child dealt with, or £13 18s. 2d. after deducting parents' contributions, can scarcely be looked upon as excessive.

The number of children under the control of the Board for each year ending April, since 1881, is shown in the following table:—

Year ending April.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Year ending April.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
1881	24	35	59	1889	1,316	857	2,173
1882	40	63	103	1890	1,380	904	2,284
1883	119	188	307	1891	1,417	952	2,369
1884	232	320	552	1892	1,390	1,006	2,396
1885	564	462	1,026	1893	1,472	1,065	2,537
1886	779	587	1,366	1894	1,606	1,203	2,809
1887	1,099	703	1,802	1895	1,822	1,352	3,174
1888	1,202	758	1,960				

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The ages of children placed out since the inauguration of the Board's operations were :—

Age.	Number.	Age.	Number.
Under 1 year	170	8 and under 9 years	711
1 and under 2 years	209	9 ,, ,, 10 ,,	685
2 ,, ,, 3 ,,	436	10 ,, ,, 11 ,,	539
3 ,, ,, 4 ,,	571	11 ,, ,, 12 ,,	419
4 ,, ,, 5 ,,	578	12 years and over	442
5 ,, ,, 6 ,,	617		
6 ,, ,, 7 ,,	656	Total	6,673
7 ,, ,, 8 ,,	640		

The largest number of children dealt with by the Board has been received from the Benevolent Asylum, Sydney, 4,731 having been transferred up to the end of April, 1895; while from the Randwick Asylum 307, and from the Orphan Schools, Parramatta, 362 children have been taken. The orphan schools were closed in September, 1886, and the children who would formerly have been sent to them are now taken charge of by the Board. The remaining children were removed from other public institutions and hospitals: From the Vernon and Sobraon, 319; from the Infants' Home, Ashfield, 78; from the Industrial School, Parramatta, 131; from Little Bay Hospital, 29; from the Benevolent Asylum, Newcastle, 41; from the Prince Alfred Hospital, 19; and from other institutions, 656; making a total of 6,673 as aforesaid. The gross amount expended by the Government during the year on the State Children's Relief Department, including the Parramatta and Mittagong Cottage Homes, was £34,967.

From returns prepared it is estimated that since the initiation of the boarding-out system in this Colony it has saved not less that £100,000 to the State. But there are other and higher grounds of gratulation, for not only are the children individually more satisfactorily treated than could be the case in crowded institutions, but the number becoming a charge on the State is now proportionally less than formerly, and the admirable system of relief organized by the Board bids fair to solve the difficult problem of juvenile destitution and juvenile crime. The number of destitute children in institutions wholly or largely dependent upon the State, at the end of each of the past ten years, was as follows:—

Year.	Number.	Year.	Number.
1885	1,856	1890	2,077
1886	1,866	1891	2,111
1887	1,973	1892	2,239
1888	2,091	1893	2,502
1889	2,218	1894	2,708

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This shows for 1894 an increase of 206 over the number for the previous year, owing doubtless in a large measure to the lack of employment for the labouring classes consequent upon the recent commercial depression.

Three institutions are maintained at the charge of the State entirely for the reformation of children, and one partly for that purpose. The Shaftesbury Reformatory, which was established to deal with girls who were in danger of becoming habitual criminals, has now been converted into a receiving house for State children, with a separate division for reformatory purposes. The other three institutions are the Parramatta Industrial School, for girls of more tender years; the Sobraon, in place of the Vernon, training-ship, for boys; and the Carpenterian Reformatory at Eastwood, also for boys. The Vernon and Sobraon for a long time filled the double purpose of training-school and reformatory. However, in August, 1895, the Carpenterian Reformatory was opened on part of what is known as the Brush Farm Estate, where is also situated the Boys' Home, formerly located at Rydalmere, for crippled and delicate lads, who are received from various charitable institutions. Towards the close of 1895 there were housed in the reformatory 25 boys. Prior to August of that year the reformatory buildings had, for about sixteen months, been used for housing State children generally. The institution now receives, from the higher and lower Courts, boys against whom convictions are recorded. The inmates, besides being subjected to proper discipline, are trained in farming, carpentering, bootmaking, and blacksmiths' work. The number of children in the institutions mentioned at the close of each of the last ten years was as follows :—

Year.	Vernon or Sobraon.	Parramatta (formerly Biloela).	Shaftesbury.	Total.
1885	202	106	29	337
1886	205	90	24	319
1887	203	90	26	319
1888	209	93	28	330
1889	227	87	42	356
1890	208	64	32	304
1891	230	80	32	342
1892	278	78	25	381
1893	303	103	22	428
1894	349	117	2*	468

* Inmates of Reformatory division.

During 1887 the industrial school for girls was removed from Biloela, Cockatoo Island, to the building formerly occupied by the Roman Catholic Orphan School, Parramatta.

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The numbers of destitute children in other charitable institutions, both public and private, from which returns were received, at the close of each of the last ten years, were as follow :—

Year.	Randwick Asylum.	Benevolent Asylum.	Infants' Home, Ashfield.	State Children's Relief Department.		Other Institutions.	Total.
				Boarded out.	In Cottage Homes.		
1885	199	122	32	1,025	.....	140	1,518
1886	254	130	35	1,214	.....	35	1,668
1887	267	101	23	1,278	... ..	115	1,784
1888	246	168	56	1,341	108	14	1,933
1889	216	151	118	1,348	117	25	1,975
1890	212	161	62	1,373	116	16	1,940
1891	183	147	52	1,389	122	23	1,916
1892	176	153	60	1,464	143	558	2,554
1893	172	119	42	1,741	153	579	2,806
1894	148	83	59	1,948	146	842	3,226

For the first five years shown in the foregoing statement the number of destitute children averaged 1,768 per annum, or 1·77 per thousand of the total population; while for the last five years the yearly average was 2,130, or 1·81 per thousand.

The appended table shows the number of children under 15 years of age maintained in reformatories and in charitable institutions of a public and private character at the end of 1894. In the figures relating to Government asylums are included the 1,948 children boarded out by the State Children's Relief Department :—

Institutions.	Children.
Government	2,708
Public	443
Church of England	18
Roman Catholic Church	492
Wesleyan	21
Salvation Army	12
Total	3,694

The number of children supported by public and private charity at the end of 1893 was 3,234, so that there was an increase of 606 during the twelve months. The deaths of children in charitable institutions in 1894 numbered 129, the total for 1893 being 166. In the number for each year the deaths of boarded-out children are included.

Destitute Adults.

The number of destitute adults, or persons 15 years of age and over, wholly or in part supported by the State as inmates of the various asylums of the Colony at the close of the year 1894, was 3,317, of whom

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2,576 were males, and 741 females. The great majority of those in the asylums are persons of very advanced years who are unable to work. The inmates of the Benevolent Asylum, Sydney, however, form an exception to this rule, as a large proportion of them are destitute women who use the institution as a lying-in hospital. The numbers of males and females in the various institutions, with the ratio per 1,000 of adult population at the close of each of the past ten years, were as follow :—

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per 1,000 of Adult Population.		
				Male.	Female.	Total.
1885	1,366	400	1,766	4·3	1·7	3·2
1886	1,504	448	1,952	4·5	1·8	3·4
1887	1,719	471	2,190	5·0	1·8	3·6
1888	1,820	521	2,341	5·1	1·9	3·7
1889	1,912	588	2,500	5·1	2·0	3·8
1890	2,039	582	2,621	5·2	1·9	3·8
1891	2,147	603	2,750	5·3	1·9	3·8
1892	2,257	657	2,914	5·4	2·0	4·0
1893	2,523	666	3,189	6·0	2·0	4·2
1894	2,576	741	3,317	6·0	2·1	4·3

The following shows the number of adults remaining in the various Benevolent Asylums at the close of the years 1885 to 1894 :—

Year.	Sydney (Pitt-street).	Newington.	Liverpool.	Parramatta.			Rookwood.	West Maitland.	Newcastle.	Other Asylums.	Total.
				George-street.	Mac-quarie-st.	Cottage Homes.					
1885	88	304	710	342	292	...	...	16	...	14	1,766
1886	83	331	741	421	297	...	...	35	27	17	1,952
1887	77	366	767	644	258	...	...	35	28	15	2,190
1888	97	397	778	721	286	...	...	36	26	...	2,341
1889	83	454	801	771	283	39	...	37	32	...	2,500
1890	92	462	789	867	288	42	...	39	28	14	2,621
1891	103	491	793	938	284	62	...	44	34	1	2,750
1892	110	519	836	1,000	312	43	...	51	41	2	2,914
1893	65	577	887	984	332	43	202	53	40	6	3,189
1894	66	639	785	995	321	43	379	42	40	7	3,317

The Liverpool Asylum and the two large institutions at Parramatta are homes for males; the Benevolent Asylum, Sydney, is for females; and the institution at Newington is used chiefly for persons of this sex. Old and indigent married couples have the use of the Cottage Homes, Parramatta, which were opened in March, 1889. Owing to the asylums at Liverpool and Parramatta becoming overcrowded, the Government,

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during the latter part of 1892, decided to utilise the buildings erected at Rookwood several years previously, and intended for a reformatory for boys, though never used for that purpose; consequently, in March, 1893, the premises were opened as an additional asylum for male inmates, of whom there were 202 in the institution at the close of the year, and 379 at the end of 1894.

In the following table will be found the number of adult male and female inmates of all charitable institutions from which information was received at the close of 1894:—

Institutions.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Government	2,591	637	3,228
Public	70	227	297
Church of England	29	52	81
Roman Catholic	28	220	248
Salvation Army	19	32	51
Hebrew	7	3	10
Total	2,744	1,171	3,915

The above total of 3,915 is approximate to that for 1892, when the number was 3,905, but is less by 77 than the total for 1893, when the figure was 3,992. During 1894 the deaths of 689 adults took place in the various institutions.

Adding together the numbers of adults and children in order to show the proportion, as compared with the whole population, of those in the Colony dependent on the State for support, the ratios per 1,000 for the last ten years are found to be as follow:—

Year.	Children.	Adults.	Total.	Per 1,000 of		
				Children under 15 years.	Adult Population.	Total Population.
1885	1,856	1,766	3,622	4·7	3·2	3·8
1886	1,866	1,952	3,818	4·6	3·4	3·9
1887	1,973	2,190	4,163	4·8	3·6	4·2
1888	2,091	2,341	4,432	5·0	3·7	4·2
1889	2,218	2,500	4,718	5·3	3·8	4·4
1890	2,077	2,621	4,698	4·8	3·8	4·2
1891	2,111	2,750	4,861	4·7	3·8	4·2
1892	2,239	2,914	5,153	4·9	4·0	4·3
1893	2,502	3,189	5,691	5·3	4·2	4·7
1894	2,708	3,317	6,025	5·6	4·3	4·8

The proportion of paupers to the whole population shown in the above table, though perceptibly increasing, is still small compared with that

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of other countries. The proportion of population in the United Kingdom maintained in the workhouses and other institutions of a similar character at the cost of the ratepayers was as follows at the beginning of the year 1895 :—

England and Wales	7·13	per thousand.
Scotland	6·51	,,
Ireland	9·60	,,
United Kingdom	7·37	,,

as against 4·8 per thousand in this Colony dependent upon the State for support, a state of things plainly illustrating the happier lot of the people of Australia. There is a large amount of outdoor relief in the United Kingdom which is not included in the above figures; if this were taken into consideration the proportions would be:—England and Wales, 27 per thousand; Scotland, 23·4; Ireland, 22; and the United Kingdom, 26·1 per thousand.

The receipts and disbursements of the charitable institutions in the Colony during the year 1894 were as shown below. The figures do not include the money received and expended by several denominational institutions the financial condition of which is not made public:—

Receipts :—		Disbursements :—	
Government aid	£130,208	Buildings and repairs	£11,531
Private contributions	23,527	Maintenance (including salaries)	147,307
Other sources	30,954	Other expenses	17,397
Total	£184,689	Total	£176,235

Treatment of the Insane.

The treatment of the insane is dealt with under the head of Vital Statistics. The average number of insane persons resident in hospital during 1894 was 3,445, while the total number under care was 4,325. These numbers include those resident at the three licensed houses for the insane at Cook's River, Picton, and Ryde. The gross expenditure on hospitals for insane, wholly supported by the State, during 1894, was £92,263, while the collections from private sources amounted to £14,471, leaving a net cost to the Government of £77,792. The average weekly cost per patient was 10s. 7d., without deducting collections, and 8s. 11d. after these were deducted, while the net annual expenditure per head of population was 1s. 3d. The total expenditure by the State on all institutions connected with the care of the insane, inclusive of the cost of maintenance of Government patients at the private asylum, Cook's River, and the maintenance of patients in the Reception House, Darlinghurst, was £99,425, and the total collections amounted to £14,625, so that the actual expenditure during the year was £84,800. The arrangements by which a number of Government patients were maintained at the

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licensed house at Cook's River ceased at the end of 1894. A few weeks previously all the Government patients were removed to the public institutions, the majority being sent to Rydalmere, where new wards had been erected; thus, at that date, for the first time for twenty-eight years, the whole of the patients under the care of the Government were housed within the walls of its own institutions. The treatment meted out to the insane is that dictated by the greatest humanity, and the hospitals are fitted with all conveniences and appliances which modern science points out as most calculated to mitigate or remove the affliction under which these unfortunates labour.

Protection of the Aborigines.

A Board is in existence for the protection of the aborigines, the object of which is to ameliorate the condition of the blacks, and to exercise a general guardianship over them. There are also three mission stations for the benefit of the Aborigines. These are Cumeroogunga, on the River Murray; Warangesda, on the Murrumbidgee; and Brewarrina, on the Darling. The mission stations are under the control of a society called the Aborigines' Protection Association, who are responsible to the Board for their administration. The natives at these settlements are comfortably housed, and are encouraged to devote their energies to agricultural and kindred occupations, and elementary education is imparted to the children.

The amount expended by the Government during 1894 for the benefit of the aborigines was £15,311. This included an expenditure of £7,947 by the Board on aborigines generally; £803 for the fares of aborigines travelling on the railway, and £2,047 in liquidating claims incurred by the Aborigines Protection Association in connection with the mission stations. The sum of £789 was expended on medical attendance and medicine; £1,089 on buildings, school books, etc.; £2,576 on blankets, clothing, etc.; and £61 for burial expenses. The aborigines are referred to at length in the part dealing with Population and Vital Statistics.

Total Expenditure on Charity.

The total expenditure of the State in connection with all forms of relief and in aid of hospitals, asylums for the insane, and other charitable institutions, amounted in 1894 to about £400,000; adding to this the amount of private subscriptions, donations, and other receipts of hospitals, etc., the poor and the unfortunate benefited during the year to the extent of about £525,000. This sum, though not excessive in proportion to the population, may yet appear large in view of the general wealth of the Colony, which should preclude the necessity of so many seeking assistance; for the present there is no risk that the charitable institutions

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will encourage the growth of the pauper element, and that free quarters and free food will be made so accessible that those who are disinclined to work will be tempted to live at the public expense.

Government Labour Bureau.

Owing to the stoppage of public and private works consequent upon depression in the money market, there were, in the latter part of 1891, a large number of persons in the Colony who, though able and willing to work, were unable to find any work to do. So great an amount of this kind of distress was in existence that the Government felt compelled to take steps for the purpose of helping genuine workers to the employment they were desirous of obtaining; and in February, 1892, a Labour Bureau was formed, where those who wanted work done could obtain labour, and where those who desired to work could hear of whatever there was to do. No charge is made for registration, and the matter of wages is left to be settled between the parties concerned. In the first year of its existence the Bureau found employment for 8,154 persons, in the second year for 10,357, and in the third year for 16,380, making a total of 34,891 altogether. In addition to these, it is estimated that about 5,000 persons indirectly obtained work through the medium of the Bureau. Relief was given to those in absolute want, in the shape of rations, of which 30,960 were issued during 1892-3, 52,525 in 1893-4, and 41,884 in 1894-5, at an average cost of about 1s. 6d. each. Private subscriptions have been disbursed among the needy, and parcels of clothing distributed. The daily attendance of unemployed at the Bureau is from 500 to 600. During the year ended January, 1895, special relief in cases of sickness was granted to the extent of £131, making the total cost of relief for the twelve months £3,098, as compared with £3,840 for the preceding year. The Minister for Labour and Industry contemplates effecting a considerable extension of the operations of the Bureau as soon as funds necessary for the purpose have been voted by the Legislature. It is proposed to establish 35 country agencies. One of the principal results of the contemplated innovation will be that the Bureau will have intelligence departments in all the main divisions of the Colony.

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PART XXVI.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

ONE of the first results of the Census of 1891 was the readjustment of the estimates of population. Prior to the 5th April, 1891, there had been no actual count of the people of New South Wales since 1881, but an approximate return was made up of the estimated population on the 31st December of each year. This was done by taking into account the increase caused by the excess of births over deaths, and of arrivals over departures. It is evident that if these data could be ascertained exactly, there would be no difficulty in making an accurate estimate of the population at any time. But although the machinery for the registration of births and deaths ensures a fairly correct return under these heads, it is not so easy to obtain exact particulars respecting the arrivals and departures—especially the latter. The lists of passengers arriving by sea are usually accurate; but in the case of persons departing, it is found that large numbers go on board steamers at the last moment, without having previously booked their names, and so are not recorded amongst the emigrants from the Colony. It therefore becomes necessary, when estimating the population, to make allowance for unrecorded departures. The results of the Census of 1891, however, showed that the allowance made was not sufficient, and that the estimates for the previous years were in excess of the truth. Consequently, the figures of previous estimates were recast, and proper allowance was made, which will account for whatever discrepancy there may be between the tables now published, and those contained in issues prior to 1892.

The following is an estimate of the population of each of the Australasian Colonies on the 30th June, 1895.

Colony.	Population.
New South Wales	1,268,150
Victoria	1,182,043
Queensland	454,234
South Australia*	352,763
Western Australia	89,550
Tasmania	158,747
New Zealand†	689,826
Australasia	4,195,313

* Including Northern Territory. † Exclusive of 41,993 Maories.

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In the preceding table due allowance has been made for unrecorded departures, and, in the case of Western Australia, for unrecorded arrivals which took place in the northern parts of that enormous territory, where there did not exist proper official means of keeping account of the adventurers who, from time to time, attracted by rumours of its vast natural resources, visited that comparatively unknown land. The proportion of population belonging to each Colony at the end of June, 1895, was as follows:—New South Wales, 30·23; Victoria, 28·18; Queensland, 10·83; South Australia, 8·41; Western Australia, 2·13; Tasmania, 3·78; and New Zealand, 16·44.

The estimated population of New South Wales at the close of various years, from 1861 to 1894, will be found hereunder:—

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1861	201,574	156,404	357,978
1866	235,116	193,697	428,813
1871	282,846	234,912	517,758
1876	333,515	280,666	614,181
1881	429,020	353,060	782,080
1886	543,260	446,080	989,340
1891	630,870	534,430	1,165,300
1892	646,540	551,110	1,197,650
1893	658,990	564,380	1,223,370
1894	672,950	578,500	1,251,450
1895*	681,830	586,320	1,268,150

* 1st July.

The average rate of increase for the whole of the Australasian Colonies during the decade ended with 1894 was 2·68 per cent. per annum. Owing to the large increase that has taken place in Western Australia during the last four years, the average rate for that Colony is greatly in excess of that for any of the other six Colonies; for the decade it amounts to 10·08 per cent., with variations from 0·45 per cent. decrease in 1888 to 26·14 per cent. increase in 1894. Queensland comes next with an average of 3·79 per cent., and extremes of 5·90 per cent. in 1887 and 2·35 per cent. in 1890. The average for New South Wales is 3·30 per cent., with a maximum of 4·93 in 1885 and a minimum of 2·15 in 1893. The average for Victoria is below that of Australasia, and amounts to only 2·25 per cent., with a maximum of 4·26 in 1888, and a minimum of 0·43 per cent. in 1894. The Tasmanian average is 2·19 per cent., with extremes of 5·04 in 1891, and 0·34 in 1892. New Zealand had its maximum rate of increase in 1893, when it amounted to 3·36 per cent., and its minimum of 0·44 per cent. in 1888; the average for the period being 2·07 per cent. The South Australian rate of increase was the smallest, and amounted to only 1·28 per cent., with a minimum of 0·55 per cent. decrease in 1888, and a maximum increase

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of 3·36 per cent. in 1892. The rate for Australasia fell from 3·47 per cent. in 1885 to 2·56 per cent. in 1889 and 1890; in 1891 it recovered to 3·00 per cent., but since that date it has fallen rapidly, and amounted to only 2·08 per cent. in 1893 and 1894.

The growth of population in the continent of Australia, and also in the whole of Australasia, in periods from 1861 to the end of 1894, is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Continent of Australia.	Australasia.
1861	1,076,666	1,265,898
1866	1,345,058	1,646,540
1871	1,601,295	1,970,066
1876	1,855,996	2,360,555
1881	2,204,495	2,822,999
1886	2,677,911	3,398,658
1891	3,112,359	3,899,036
1892	3,181,697	3,985,274
1893	3,241,613	4,068,362
1894	3,310,182	4,153,766

The following table gives the net increase of male and female population in New South Wales during each year since 1885, after allowing for the number of persons whose departure from the Colony was not formally recorded:—

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1885	24,720	19,870	44,590
1886	20,230	19,540	39,770
1887	15,090	15,900	30,990
1888	14,840	15,910	30,750
1889	15,820	14,920	30,740
1890	20,640	19,400	40,040
1891	21,220	22,220	43,440
1892	15,670	16,680	32,350
1893	12,450	13,270	25,720
1894	13,960	14,120	28,080

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As tested by the voluntary influx of population, the attraction which New South Wales has for many years offered to the settler is most marked, and no test could be more practical. As long as the balance of attraction remained with the other colonies, so long did the tide of immigration set to their shores; but for many years past New South Wales has offered a more substantial reward to the settler than any of its neighbours, and the result is seen in the increased numbers who have come hither. The table herewith shows the total increase in population in each of the Australasian Colonies between the census of 1881 and that of 1891, together with the increase due to excess of births over deaths, and to excess of arrivals over departures:—

Colony.	Total Increase.	Natural Increase.	Net Increase due to Immigration.
New South Wales	380,766	217,938	162,828
Victoria	278,059	161,698	116,361
Queensland	180,193	77,417	102,776
South Australia	58,009	86,287	—28,278
Western Australia	23,398	9,292	14,106
Continent of Australia	920,425	552,632	367,793
Tasmania	30,962	25,001	5,961
New Zealand	134,621	127,184	7,437
Australasia	1,086,008	704,817	381,191

Minus (—) indicates decrease.

The above table shows that out of a total increase by immigration of 381,191 persons, the large proportion of 43 per cent. found a home in New South Wales, as against 31 per cent. attracted to Victoria, and 27 per cent. to Queensland. In the total of 162,828 credited to New South Wales are included 34,079 assisted immigrants. During the same period 103,140 assisted immigrants arrived in Queensland; but as the net increase from immigration was only 102,776, it is evident that some of the immigrants did not remain in that Colony. Since 1860, the year following the separation of Queensland, the arrivals in New South Wales have in every year exceeded the departures. The greatest apparent excess during any one year was in 1883, when the number of arrivals was greater than the departures by 28,579.

Assisted immigration dates from 1832, and continued to be the settled policy of the country, with slight interruptions, until its practical cessation during 1888. The number of assisted immigrants arriving in New South Wales during each year from 1861 will be found in the edition of this work for 1893; the figures for 1894 were:—13 adult males, 28 adult females, 18 male children, and 8 female children; total,

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67. The total number of assisted immigrants who arrived in the Colony from 1832 to 1894 was 211,869, viz., 76,829 men, 81,893 women, 27,231 boys, and 25,916 girls. Of these, 77,259 have arrived since the year 1861, viz., 28,923 men, 29,076 women, 9,757 boys, and 9,503 girls.

The total number of persons arriving in the Colony by sea, as recorded at the Shipping Office, during each year from 1885 to 1894, is hereunder notified. The children are not classified, as regards sex, by the shipping authorities :—

Year.	Adults.			Children.	Total Immigrants.
	Male.	Female.	Total.		
1885	46,570	18,352	64,922	7,885	72,807
1886	45,035	18,334	63,369	5,535	68,904
1887	43,769	15,236	59,005	4,413	63,418
1888	40,295	15,446	55,741	4,435	60,176
1889	39,208	16,719	55,927	4,855	60,782
1890	43,124	19,107	62,231	5,285	67,516
1891	44,519	19,318	63,837	6,082	69,919
1892	39,538	17,757	57,295	4,902	62,197
1893	42,536	18,603	61,139	5,770	66,909
1894	46,917	21,823	68,740	6,848	75,588

The departures for the same period were as follow :—

Year.	Adults.			Children.	Total Emigrants.
	Male.	Female.	Total.		
1885	31,060	11,508	42,568	3,707	46,275
1886	34,453	11,841	46,294	2,736	49,030
1887	38,162	12,439	50,601	3,619	54,220
1888	36,278	14,553	50,831	4,070	54,901
1889	32,535	14,030	46,565	3,753	50,318
1890	34,302	15,535	49,837	4,043	53,880
1891	33,877	14,512	48,389	3,684	52,073
1892	33,839	14,828	48,667	4,020	52,687
1893	37,923	16,379	54,302	4,548	58,850
1894	41,060	19,292	60,352	5,624	65,976

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Records of the arrivals and departures overland are only available for the years subsequent to 1887. The figures are as follow :—

Year.	Arrivals.			Departures.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1888	32,868	9,036	41,904	29,502	9,024	38,526
1889	44,124	17,231	61,355	44,507	17,215	61,722
1890	50,183	19,012	69,195	47,621	17,937	65,558
1891	40,826	28,409	69,235	39,631	26,696	66,327
1892	37,091	24,959	62,050	37,362	25,372	62,734
1893	27,519	17,656	45,175	29,176	20,031	49,207
1894	26,247	16,562	42,809	27,328	18,114	45,442

The Census of 1891.

A census is taken in New South Wales once in ten years ; the last enumeration took place on the night of Sunday, 5th April, 1891, and full particulars relating to it will be found in the "General Report on the Eleventh Census of New South Wales," Sydney, 1894.

Distribution of Sexes.

The relative proportion of males to females in the whole Colony has undergone little change for many years past, as will be seen from the following figures, which represent the percentage of males and females to the whole population at the last four decennial censuses, and at the end of each year since the last census :—

Year.	Males.	Females.	Year.	Males.	Females.
1861	56·57	43·43	1892	53·98	46·02
1871	54·67	45·33	1893	53·87	46·13
1881	54·86	45·14	1894	53·77	46·23
1891	54·14	45·86			

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The excess of male over female population is chiefly at the ages of from 20 to 50 years, and is caused by the large influx of males in the prime of life, from the neighbouring colonies and the British Islands. It should be observed, however, that owing to the lower death-rate of females the disproportion in the number of the sexes is being slowly abated.

Ages of the People.

The census of 1891 has furnished full particulars with regard to the ages of the people of New South Wales at that date. The following table shows the number of persons, male and female, at each quinquennial period of age:—

Ages.	Total Population.		Total.
	Males.	Females.	
Under 5 years	84,014	81,736	165,750
5 years and under 10	72,895	71,359	144,254
10 ,, ,, 15	62,230	61,186	123,416
15 ,, ,, 20	54,267	54,476	108,743
20 ,, ,, 25	57,963	53,441	111,404
25 ,, ,, 30	59,895	46,950	106,845
30 ,, ,, 35	52,115	36,690	88,805
35 ,, ,, 40	40,380	27,303	67,683
40 ,, ,, 45	31,446	22,237	53,683
45 ,, ,, 50	27,054	18,658	45,712
50 ,, ,, 55	22,753	14,853	37,606
55 ,, ,, 60	16,716	10,812	27,528
60 ,, ,, 65	12,690	7,762	20,452
65 ,, ,, 70	7,030	4,905	11,935
70 ,, ,, 75	5,048	3,692	8,740
75 ,, ,, 80	2,842	1,903	4,745
80 ,, ,, 85	1,294	877	2,171
85 ,, ,, 90	422	284	706
90 ,, ,, 95	142	79	221
95 ,, ,, 100	21	27	48
100 ,, and over	12	7	19
Unspecified	1,333	435	1,768
All ages	612,562	519,672	1,132,234

It will be noticed that there is a gradual diminution in the number of persons at the different periods of age from infancy to old age, the only exception being in regard to the number of those between 20 and 25 years of age. The females show a steady falling off at each age period from the top to the bottom of the column, but the males show an increase in the two periods from 20 to 25 and from 25 to 30—the ages when the physical energies of men should be at the highest point. Altogether, the table shows the composition of the people of this Colony to approach very nearly that of a theoretically perfect community. A

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comparison of the results of the census of 1891 with those of 1871 and 1881 will be found hereunder :—

Ages.	Total Population.			Increase from 1881 to 1891.	
	1871.	1881.	1891.	Numerical.	Centesimal.
Under 5 years	81,984	111,123	165,750	54,627	49·16
5 years and under 10 ...	70,527	99,018	144,254	45,236	45·68
10 ,, ,, 15 ...	57,672	88,479	123,416	34,937	39·49
15 ,, ,, 20 ...	42,636	75,734	108,743	33,009	43·58
20 ,, ,, 21 ...	8,414	14,966	22,081	7,115	47·54
21 ,, ,, 25 ...	33,860	59,571	89,323	29,752	49·94
25 ,, ,, 30 ...	43,617	60,538	106,845	46,307	76·49
30 ,, ,, 35 ...	37,989	50,639	88,805	38,166	75·37
35 ,, ,, 40 ...	32,967	46,405	67,683	21,278	45·85
40 ,, ,, 45 ...	25,899	39,535	53,683	14,148	35·79
45 ,, ,, 50 ...	18,162	31,322	45,712	14,390	45·94
50 ,, ,, 55 ...	17,817	24,484	37,606	13,122	53·59
55 ,, ,, 60 ...	11,351	15,009	27,528	12,519	83·41
60 ,, ,, 65 ...	9,302	13,878	20,452	6,574	47·37
65 ,, ,, 70 ..	4,850	8,282	11,935	3,653	44·11
70 ,, ,, 75 ...	3,609	5,518	8,740	3,222	58·39
75 ,, ,, 80 ...	1,275	2,637	4,745	2,108	79·94
80 ,, ,, 100 ...	959	1,888	3,146	1,258	66·63
100 ,, and over	18	26	19	—7	—26·92
Unspecified	1,073	2,416	1,768	—648	—26·82
All ages	503,981	751,468	1,132,234	380,766	50·67

— Signifies a decrease.

Assuming that males of from 20 to 60 years of age are capable of supporting themselves, it will be found that New South Wales possessed no less than 308,322 males of that desirable class, or slightly over 50 per cent. of the total number of males. There were but 30,834 males of 60 years of age and over, representing only 5 per cent. of the total male population; while the remaining 273,406 males, or a little under 45 per cent. of the total number, were under 20 years of age. The number of males of from 20 to 40 years—the military age, that is, the age of those upon whom the first call for the defence of the country would naturally be made—was 210,353, or excluding aborigines, 209,589, equal to over 34 per cent. of the total number of males.

From 15 to 45 years of age is usually considered the reproductive period of life in females. There were at the census date 218,860 such females in New South Wales, or over 42 per cent. of the total number of females.

Birthplaces of the People.

Of the 1,123,954 people, exclusive of 8,280 aborigines, who composed the population of New South Wales when the Census was taken in 1891, the birthplaces of all but 1,301 were recorded; but of those who

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failed to state the place of their nativity 1,206 had British, and 95 had foreign names. The following table shows the birthplaces of the population :—

Birthplaces.	Males.	Females.	Total.
British Empire.			
Australasia—			
New South Wales	363,495	361,520	725,015
Victoria	22,792	17,976	40,768
Queensland	4,987	5,186	10,173
South Australia	9,850	7,866	17,716
Western Australia	244	220	464
Tasmania	3,075	2,776	5,851
New Zealand	4,883	4,132	9,015
Australia (Colony not defined)	471	403	874
United Kingdom—			
England	92,617	56,615	149,232
Wales	3,232	1,765	4,997
Scotland	23,026	13,795	36,821
Ireland	39,449	35,602	75,051
European Possessions	127	50	177
Asiatic Possessions—			
India	1,309	491	1,800
Others	248	57	305
African Possessions—			
South Africa	239	191	430
Mauritius	166	97	263
Others	33	12	45
American Possessions—			
Dominion of Canada	885	189	1,074
West Indies	350	94	444
Others	73	20	93
Polynesian Possessions	164	134	298
Total, British Empire	571,715	509,191	1,080,906
Foreign Countries.			
European Countries (including Possessions out of Europe)—			
German Empire	6,976	2,589	9,565
France and Possessions	1,718	552	2,270
Russia	987	189	1,176
Austria-Hungary	534	54	588
Spain and Possessions	95	43	138
Portugal and Possessions	233	16	249
Switzerland	494	100	594
Netherlands and Possessions	249	35	284
Belgium	143	38	181
Denmark and Possessions	1,276	212	1,488
Turkey	280	98	378
Greece	241	14	255
Other Balkan States	18	1	19
Sweden and Norway	3,237	160	3,397
Italy	1,229	248	1,477
Europe (country not defined)	2	2	4
Asiatic Countries—			
Chinese Empire	13,048	109	13,157
Japan	69	11	80
Others	173	11	184
African Countries	138	57	195
American Countries—			
United States	2,509	870	3,379
Others	186	57	243
Polynesia	369	117	486
Total, Foreign Countries	34,204	5,583	39,787
At Sea—			
British Names	1,067	863	1,930
Foreign Names	20	10	30
Unspecified—			
British Names	913	293	1,206
Foreign Names	84	11	95
Total Population (exclusive of Aborigines)	608,003	515,951	1,123,954

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The following table shows the proportion per cent. that each element of the population bore to the whole community at the four census periods, 1861, 1871, 1881, and 1891 :—

Year.	Proportion of total Population.			
	Natives of New South Wales.	Natives of other Australasian Colonies.	Other British-born Subjects.	Foreigners.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1861	45·69	1·34	46·18	6·79
1871	58·57	2·67	34·85	3·91
1881	62·17	5·95	27·97	3·91
1891	64·76	7·50	24·21	3·53

Further details respecting the racial composition of the people at the same periods are given in the following table :—

Nationality.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
New South Wales	45·69	58·38	61·95	64·03
Other Australasian Colonies	1·34	2·67	5·95	7·50
Aborigines	.....	0·19	0·22	0·73
English	23·98	17·33	14·32	13·18
Irish	15·63	12·49	9·21	6·63
Scotch	5·19	3·98	3·34	3·25
Welsh	0·39	0·37	0·41	0·44
Other British Subjects	0·99	0·68	0·69	0·71
Total, British Subjects	93·21	96·09	96·09	96·47
Chinese	3·70	1·43	1·36	1·16
German	1·56	1·31	1·00	0·84
Other Foreigners	1·53	1·17	1·55	1·53
Total, Foreigners	6·79	3·91	3·91	3·53

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The number of Australian-born adults at the time of the Census was 280,624, distributed as follows:—

Birthplace.	Males.	Females.	Total.
New South Wales	115,530	116,571	232,101
Victoria	15,225	10,825	26,050
Queensland	2,003	2,060	4,063
South Australia	5,215	3,576	8,791
Western Australia	167	150	317
Tasmania	2,599	2,248	4,847
New Zealand	2,258	1,562	3,820
Colony undefined	359	276	635
Total	143,356	137,268	280,624

Centralization of Population.

One of the most notable problems in the progress of modern civilization is the tendency, everywhere exhibited in the chief countries of the world, of the population to accumulate in great cities. Not only is this apparent in England, France, and other countries where the development of manufactures has brought about an entire change in the employment of the people, and has necessarily caused their aggregation in towns, but it is seen also in the United States, the most favoured country for the agricultural labourer. It is noticed, too, that in all new countries there is a tendency for immigrants to locate themselves in and near the great cities, and this Colony is no exception to the rule.

As far back as 1861, when the native-born population amounted to only 45·69 per cent. of the inhabitants of the whole Colony, the number living in Sydney and its suburbs formed only 42·13 per cent. of the total; while British-born colonists, amounting to 46·18 per cent. of the population, constituted 52·93 per cent. of the metropolitan population. In 1891 the native-born formed 64·76 per cent. of the total population, but the proportion of native-born resident in the metropolitan area had risen to 58·63 per cent., and the proportion of British-born had declined to 30·51 per cent. No great difference is observable between the proportion of persons attracted to New South Wales from other colonies who remained in Sydney during late years, and those who made the country districts their home. What difference there is favours the supposition that the metropolis has proved more attractive. The non-British population have, as a rule, preferred the country districts to Sydney; but of late years there has been a tendency on the part of certain foreign elements to gravitate towards Sydney; this is especially noticeable amongst Chinese and Hindoos, as well as Syrians and others from the Levant.

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The proportion per cent. which each element of the city population bore to the whole metropolitan population at the last four censuses is shown in the following figures :—

Year.	Proportion of Metropolitan Population.			
	Natives of New South Wales.	Natives of other Australasian Colonies.	Other British-born subjects.	Foreigners.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1861	42·13	1·77	52·93	3·17
1871	54·24	3·07	40·22	2·47
1881	56·87	6·18	33·62	3·33
1891	58·63	7·26	30·51	3·60

The conditions of progress in these colonies approximate somewhat to those of the United States, and a comparison between the increase of town population there and in New South Wales is not without interest. The great defect in the comparison arises from the fact that in America there exist many large cities, while in New South Wales there is practically only one. The population of the United States for four periods, and the proportion of rural to city population, will be seen below :—

Year.	Population of the United States.	Population of Cities of United States.	Percentage of Urban to Total Population.
1860	31,443,321	5,072,256	16·13
1870	38,558,371	8,071,875	20·93
1880	50,155,783	11,318,547	22·57
1890	63,622,250	18,284,385	29·20

The rapid increase of city population shown above has given rise to considerable speculation. It seems an established fact that the movement of population towards the towns in the old countries of the world is a sign of a desire for improvement in the circumstances manifested by the ruder population; for, like every other commodity, labour gravitates to the market where it will obtain the highest price. In America the increase in town population has been derived mainly from abroad; and there seems no reason to suppose that, large as the proportion of urban population has become, it has reached an unhealthy stage. In

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Australasia, however, the case is different, and it is impossible to believe that healthy progress is consistent with the wonderful growth of the metropolis at the expense of the country. Over 57 per cent. of the increase due to immigration in New South Wales during the period 1881–91 was retained in the metropolis. In this Colony the proportion of town population is even more remarkable than in the United States, as will be seen from the table here given, showing the percentage of population of Sydney and suburbs and of the country districts as compared with New South Wales as a whole:—

Year.	Metropolitan.	Country.
	per cent.	per cent.
1861	26·70	73·30
1871	26·73	73·27
1881	30·34	69·66
1891	34·26	65·74

For the neighbouring colony of Victoria, the corresponding figures are:—

Year.	Metropolitan.	Country.
	per cent.	per cent.
1861	25·89	74·11
1871	28·87	71·13
1881	32·81	67·19
1891	42·49	57·51

In the table of urban population of the United States on page 897 are included all towns exceeding 8,000 inhabitants; nevertheless, the proportion to the whole is much less than in either New South Wales or Victoria. The case of Melbourne is even more marked than that of Sydney; for during the period comprised in the table, the former city increased proportionately more than the latter, as compared with the population of its Colony, and its numerical increase to the end of 1892 was also greater. Owing to the exodus from Melbourne during the last two or three years, the proportion of rural to total population in Victoria has increased, and to a very slight degree this has been the case in New South Wales also. At the close of 1894 the proportions were as follow:—New South Wales, metropolitan, 38·85 per cent., and country, 66·15 per cent.; Victoria, metropolitan, 37·23 per cent., and

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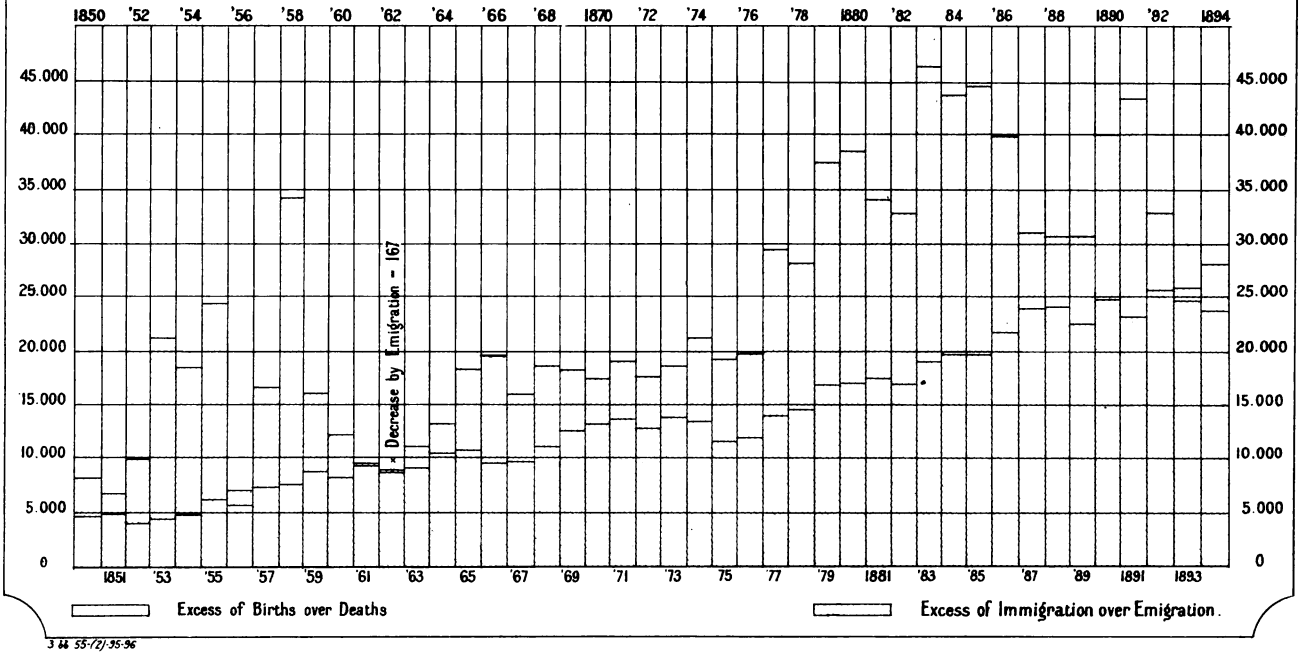
INCREASE OF POPULATION



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country, 62·77 per cent. The following figures show the population of the city and suburbs of Sydney and of Melbourne at the end of each year :—

Year.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Year.	Sydney.	Melbourne
1861	95,596	139,860	1891	399,270	491,942
1871	136,483	206,780	1892	411,710	474,810
1881	237,300	296,347	1893	421,030	444,832
1886	308,270	389,512	1894	423,600	438,955

The progress of these cities has been extraordinary, and has no parallel amongst the cities of the Old World. Even in America the rise of the great cities has been accompanied by a somewhat corresponding increase in the rural population. In these colonies, perhaps for the first time in the history of the world, is seen the disquieting spectacle of magnificent cities growing with wonderful rapidity, and embracing within their limits one-third of the population of the territory on which they depend. The chief cities of the other Australian colonies present somewhat similar features to Sydney and Melbourne, but with the exception of Adelaide, which contains nearly two-fifths of the whole population of South Australia, they are not so large in proportion to their rural population as either Sydney or Melbourne.

The population of the chief cities of the Australasian colonies at the end of 1894 is given below :—

City.	Population, 31st December, 1894.
Sydney	423,600
Melbourne	438,955
Adelaide	142,663
Brisbane	94,000
Wellington	38,710
Hobart	35,910
Perth	15,703

Wellington, the capital of New Zealand, is not the most populous city in that colony ; Auckland, Christchurch, and Dunedin, all contain a larger population.

Sydney stands alone amongst Australian cities for convenience of position and natural advantages for external and internal trade, and the progress it has made in wealth and population has not been less than expectation warranted. At the census of 1861 the population of the whole metropolis was 95,596 ; ten years later it had risen to 136,483 ; while at the census of 1881 the number had reached 224,211 ; and at the census of 1891, 386,859. The progress of the population in the city

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and suburbs will be found in the following table, which shows the estimated population of the metropolitan and country districts, and of New South Wales, on the 31st December of each year, 1885–94:—

Year.	Metropolitan.			Country.	New South Wales.		
	City.	Suburbs.	Total.		Males.	Females.	Total.
1885	122,910	169,640	292,550	657,020	523,080	426,540	949,570
1886	124,380	183,890	308,270	681,070	543,260	446,080	989,340
1887	121,160	203,670	324,830	695,500	558,350	461,980	1,020,330
1888	118,020	224,260	342,280	708,800	573,190	477,890	1,051,080
1889	114,960	245,710	360,670	721,150	589,010	492,810	1,081,820
1890	111,980	268,060	380,040	741,820	609,650	512,210	1,121,860
1891	109,090	290,180	399,270	766,030	630,870	534,430	1,165,300
1892	106,380	305,330	411,710	785,940	646,540	551,110	1,197,650
1893	105,890	315,140	421,030	802,340	658,990	564,380	1,223,370
1894	103,870	319,730	423,600	827,850	672,950	578,500	1,251,450

The increase of population during the twenty years which closed with 1894 has been 168 per cent. for the metropolis, while that of the country districts has amounted to 99 per cent. The population of the whole Colony has more than doubled itself during this period, the total for 1894 showing an increase of 118 per cent. on the total for 1874.

The area of the metropolitan district incorporated is about 142 square miles, or 90,988 acres, so that the average density of population at the end of the year was 4·65 persons per acre, some of the more immediate suburbs being more densely populated than the city itself. The area of land permanently dedicated for public recreation in the metropolis comprises 3,761 acres (776 acres in the city, and 2,985 in the suburbs, including the Centennial Park, the area of which is about 780 acres), equal to nearly one-twentieth of the total extent of the district, which must certainly be looked upon as a very liberal provision for the maintenance of public health. This is quite apart from the National Park, an area of 36,320 acres, which is within an hour's journey by train of the city. The area of Melbourne and suburbs is 163,942 acres, or about 256 square miles, and the population at the end of the year 1894 was 438,955; this shows a density of population of 2·7 persons to the acre.

The suburbs of Sydney consist of the following districts, which are here grouped according to locality:—*North-western*—Balmain, Leichhardt, Annandale, Glebe; *West Central*—Newtown, St. Peters, Camperdown, Erskineville; *East Central*—Redfern, Darlington, Waterloo, Alexandria, Botany, North Botany; *Eastern*—Paddington, Randwick, Waverley,

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Woollahra; *Western*—Ashfield, Burwood, Concord, Enfield, Five Dock, Drummoyne, Marrickville, Petersham, Strathfield; *Southern*—Canterbury, Hurstville, Kogarah, Rockdale; and *Northern*—North Sydney, Mosman, Willoughby, Manly, Ryde, and Hunter's Hill.

The census returns of 1891 showed that the population of the suburbs had more than doubled itself since the census of 1881. The increase had been general, varying from 77 per cent. in the east central districts of Redfern, Waterloo, etc., to 214 per cent. in the western and southern suburbs, which then constituted the electorate of Canterbury:—

Suburbs.	Population, 1881.	Population, 5th April, 1891.	Increase per cent.
North-western	27,785	57,617	107
West central	15,991	34,663	117
East central	25,664	45,460	77
Eastern	20,220	43,493	115
Western	18,129	50,478	178
Southern	2,033	12,837	531
Northern	11,010	30,611	178

The suburbs of Sydney comprise thirty-seven distinct municipalities, the population of which, at the date of the census of 1891 and at the end of 1894, will be found below:—

Municipality.	Population 5th April, 1891.	Population 31st Dec., 1894.	Municipality.	Population 5th April, 1891.	Population 31st Dec., 1894.
Alexandria	7,505	8,000	Leichhardt	*12,092	14,000
Annandale	4,975	6,100	Manly	3,236	3,150
Ashfield	11,697	13,500	Marrickville	13,507	16,000
Balmain	23,475	25,000	Mosman	1,460	2,200
Botany	2,060	2,400	Newtown	17,870	19,200
Botany, North	2,407	2,800	North Sydney	*15,646	17,700
Burwood	6,227	6,300	Paddington	18,392	19,500
Camperdown	6,658	7,000	Petersham	10,369	12,500
Canterbury	2,426	3,000	Randwick	6,236	7,400
Concord	2,107	2,300	Redfern	21,322	21,600
Darlington	3,465	3,500	Rockdale	4,908	6,100
Drummoyne	1,451	2,200	Ryde	2,725	2,400
Enfield	2,050	2,200	St. Peter's	4,860	5,450
Erskineville	5,275	5,600	Strathfield	1,820	2,500
Five Dock	1,250	1,300	Waterloo	8,701	9,300
Glebe	17,075	17,000	Waverley	8,842	10,300
Hunter's Hill	3,633	3,950	Willoughby	3,411	3,700
Hurstville	3,175	4,480	Woollahra	10,023	11,000
Kogarah	2,328	2,900			

* Within present limits.

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At the beginning of the year 1895 there were 137 boroughs and municipalities outside the metropolis; the following are their names and the most recent estimates of population :—

Country Municipalities.	Population.	Country Municipalities.	Population.	Country Municipalities.	Population.
Aberdeen	700	Grenfell	746	Parkes	3,500
Adamstown	2,200	Greta	1,800	Parramatta	12,000
Albury	5,900	Gulgong	1,550	Peak Hill	1,100
Armidale	4,700	Gundagai	980	Penrith	4,680
Auburn	2,500	Gunnedah	1,250	Plattsburg	3,500
Ballina	1,300	Hamilton	5,200	Port Macquarie	920
Balranald	750	Hay	3,200	Prospect and Sherwood	2,250
Bathurst	9,350	Hill End	850	Queanbeyan	1,425
Bega	2,300	Hillston	750	Quirindi	1,500
Berry	2,260	Illawarra, Central	3,100	Raymond Terrace	900
Bingara	770	,, North.	1,750	Richmond	1,350
Blayney	1,300	Inverell	3,150	Rookwood	2,350
Bombala	1,020	Jamberoo	2,490	Scone	1,200
Bourke	3,500	Jerilderie	705	Shellharbour	1,600
Bowral	2,100	Junee	1,730	Shoalhaven, Central	390
Braidwood	1,780	Katoomba	1,300	Silverton	600
Broken Hill	19,100	Kempsey	2,100	Singleton	2,100
Broughton Vale	450	Kiama	2,380	,, South	800
Burrowa	750	Lambton	3,600	Smithfield and Fairfield	1,500
Cabramatta and Canley Vale	900	,, New	1,500	St. Mary's	1,780
Camden	1,550	Lismore	3,100	Stockton	2,500
Campbelltown	2,400	Lithgow	3,750	Tamworth	5,100
Carcoar	650	Liverpool	3,450	Taree	800
Carrington	2,275	Maclean	900	Temora	1,800
Casino	1,950	Maitland, East	3,100	Tenterfield	2,800
Cobar	2,000	,, West	7,700	Tumut	1,300
Condobolin	950	Marsfield	550	Ulladulla	1,400
Cooma	2,000	Merewether	4,350	Ulmarra	1,350
Coonamble	1,100	Mittagong	1,100	Uralla	930
Cootamundra	2,500	Moama	880	Wagga Wagga	4,500
Coraki	620	Molong	1,275	Walcha	1,500
Cowra	1,750	Moree	1,600	Wallendbeen	1,225
Cudal	550	Morpeth	1,100	Wallsend	3,670
Cudgegong	2,500	Moruya	1,150	Waratah	2,650
Deniliquin	2,700	Moss Vale	1,400	Wellington	1,650
Dubbo	3,450	Mudgee	2,840	Wentworth	700
Dundas	900	Mulgoa	500	Wickham	6,650
Dungog	900	Murrumburrah	1,800	Wilcannia	1,000
Ermington and Rydalmere	620	Murrurundi	1,200	Windsor	2,300
Forbes	3,700	Musclebrook	1,800	Wingham	550
Gerringong	1,100	Narrabri	2,450	Wollongong	3,400
Glen Innes	3,000	Narrandera	1,700	Yass	1,800
Gosford	680	Newcastle	13,500	Young	3,000
Goulburn	6,000	Nowra	3,100		
Grafton	12,300	Numba	650		
Granville	4,800	Nyngan	1,150		
		Orange	3,500		
		,, East	1,950		

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The great bulk of the population dwells along the seaboard. Outside the metropolis the most thickly peopled districts are the fertile valleys of the rivers. Amongst these, in point of population, the Hunter River valley, with its large agricultural and mining industries, stands first. The Illawarra district, rich in coal and pasture, comes next; then the maize and sugar-growing country of the Clarence and the Richmond. The settlement of population originally followed the main roads of the Colony, and is now drawn to the great trunk lines of railway, which have almost superseded them.

MARRIAGES.

The number of marriages registered in the Colony showed an uninterrupted annual increase from 1875 to 1886; in 1887 and 1889, however, there was a falling off, but during 1891 there were more marriages than in any previous year. The rate per 1,000 of population had been declining during the period from 1883 to 1889, but 1890 presented a slight improvement, which was continued in 1891. Since then not only the marriage-rate, but even the number of marriages registered, has decreased from year to year. The following are the figures showing the number and rate of marriages in New South Wales for the last twenty years :—

Year.	Marriages registered.	Per 1,000 of mean population.	Year.	Marriages registered.	Per 1,000 of mean population.
1875	4,605	7·87	1886	7,811	8·06
1876	4,630	7·66	1887	7,590	7·55
1877	4,994	7·94	1888	7,844	7·57
1878	5,317	8·08	1889	7,530	7·06
1879	5,391	7·80	1890	7,876	7·15
1880	5,572	7·65	1891	8,457	7·39
1881	6,284	8·21	1892	8,022	6·79
1882	6,948	8·70	1893	7,749	6·40
1883	7,405	8·83	1894	7,666	6·20
1884	7,482	8·47			
1885	7,618	8·22	Mean for 20 years		7·57

Comparisons of the marriage-rates of different countries are apt to be misleading, on account of the different conditions of life prevailing. Thus, in comparing the Australian rate with those of foreign countries, it has to be borne in mind that the superior condition of the working classes and the preponderance of unmarried adult males in the colonies favour a high marriage-rate, while the migratory habits of a large part of the male population often occasion a certain amount of extravagance and selfishness, and tend, therefore, to a diminution of the rate. The following table shows the average marriage-rates of a number of European

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countries for the twenty years, 1871–90, and the rates for the years 1891, 1892, and 1893. The information is taken from the report of the Registrar-General of England :—

Country.	Average of 20 years, 1871–90.	1891.	1892.	1893.
United Kingdom	7·2	7·3	7·3	7·0
England and Wales	7·8	7·8	7·7	7·4
Scotland	7·0	7·0	7·1	6·6
Ireland	4·5	4·6	4·7	4·7
Denmark	7·6	6·8	6·8	7·1
Norway	6·9	6·6	6·4	6·4
Sweden	6·6	5·9	5·7	.....
Austria	8·2	7·7	7·8	.....
Hungary	9·6	8·6	9·2	9·3
Switzerland	7·4	7·2	7·4	7·4
German Empire	8·2	8·1	8·0	7·9
Prussia	8·4	8·2	8·1	8·1
Netherlands	7·6	7·1	7·2	7·3
Belgium	7·1	7·4	7·7	7·6
France	7·7	7·5	7·6	.....
Italy	7·8	7·5	7·5	7·4

It must be borne in mind that the above are the ratios of marriages to population; to ascertain the ratios of persons married it is therefore necessary to double the figures in each case.

The lowest marriage-rate of any of the colonies is found in New Zealand, and the highest, taking a series of years, in Queensland. The rates per 1,000 of the population during the last ten years, which will be found hereunder, show that the average of the whole of the colonies has been approximately 7·10.

The colonies whose rates are equal to or above the average are:—

Queensland	7·54
Victoria	7·46
New South Wales	7·24
Western Australia	7·16

Those below the average are :—

South Australia	6·76
Tasmania	6·73
New Zealand	6·13

The marriage-rate in Australasia, as elsewhere, is influenced by the general state of prosperity. The year 1883 marked probably the end of a long period of lavish public expenditure, and till then the marriage-rate in nearly all the colonies had been gradually rising, of course with many fluctuations. In 1883 the rates were: New South Wales, 8·83; Victoria, 7·44 Queensland, 8·93; South Australia, 8·64; Western

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Australia, 6·95; Tasmania, 9·16; New Zealand, 6·82; Australasia, 8·02. With the exception of Victoria and Western Australia, all the colonies show a steady decline since 1883. In Victoria the rate continued to rise until 1889, when it reached 8·43; since then, however, it has fallen to under 6 per cent. In Western Australia the rate increased and decreased in an irregular way, and, in spite of the mining boom of recent years, it was lower in 1894 than ten years before. The rates for all the colonies in 1894 were: New South Wales, 6·20; Victoria, 5·97; Queensland, 5·70; South Australia, 6·00; Western Australia, 6·55; Tasmania, 5·43; New Zealand, 6·15; Australasia, 6·03.

The number of persons signing the marriage register with marks has steadily declined for many years past. The proportion of signatures made with marks was, in 1871, 16·96 per cent. of the whole, while in 1894 the percentage had fallen to 1·91, thus showing a satisfactory decrease of illiteracy. The greatest number of persons signing with marks was recorded in the country districts of the Colony, where, in 1871, 18·92 per cent. of the total signatures were so made, as against 13·50 in the metropolitan district. The proportion of persons unable to write is still much higher in the country than in the metropolis, though it is satisfactory to note the reduction of the percentage from 18·92 in the year mentioned to 2·43 in 1894. The following table shows the percentage of marks to total signatures of persons signing marriage registers, for various years since 1871:—

Year.	Metropolis.	Country Districts.	New South Wales.	Year.	Metropolis.	Country Districts.	New South Wales.
1871	13·50	18·92	16·96	1891	2·26	3·78	3·08
1876	6·54	16·71	10·47	1892	2·35	3·63	3·06
1881	5·05	8·34	6·94	1893	1·50	2·67	2·16
1886	2·89	5·00	3·98	1894	1·26	2·43	1·91

The amount of illiteracy, as displayed by inability to write, was for many years greater amongst females than males. The following table shows that such was the case in every year from 1871 until 1887, since which year, however, with the exception of 1894, the proportion of females signing with marks has been less than that of males. It would, therefore, appear that women are now quite on a par with men in the acquirement of the rudiments of education, and it has, besides, to be pointed out that many women refrain from signing their names in the marriage register, not from inability to write, but from sheer nervousness. In 1871, the first year shown in the foregoing table, the number of women married who were unable to sign their names amounted to nearly one-fifth of the whole, but the proportion had fallen to less than 2 per cent. in 1894.

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The following table gives the proportion per thousand of males and females signing the marriage registers with marks for various years since 1871:—

Year.	Males signing with marks, per thousand.	Females signing with marks, per thousand.	Year.	Males signing with marks, per thousand.	Females signing with marks, per thousand.
1871	145	194	1891	32	29
1876	96	114	1892	33	28
1881	55	84	1893	23	20
1886	38	42	1894	19	20

The greater number of marriages are solemnized by the clergy; nevertheless, the number of persons married by registrars is fairly large. During 1894, out of 7,666 marriages, 7,224 were solemnized by clergy, and 442 witnessed by registrars, the respective percentages being 94·23 and 5·77.

As might naturally be expected, the largest number of marriages were celebrated by the Church of England, the Roman Catholic Church coming next; but the percentage of marriages celebrated by each of these Churches falls short of what might be anticipated from its strength as shown by the census. This is noticeably the case with the Roman Catholic Church. The adherents of this denomination at the census of 1891 formed 25·34 per cent. of the population, whereas the marriages solemnized according to its rites during the year 1894 formed only 17·75 per cent. of the whole number of marriages. To bring the number of Roman Catholic marriages up to the proper proportion they should increase nearly 43 per cent. It is plain, therefore, that the adherents of this Church either do not marry within their own communion, or do not undertake the responsibilities of marriage to the same extent as other members of the community. The latter supposition is doubtless the correct explanation of the anomaly; for the adherents of the Roman Catholic Church are amongst the poorest in the Colony, and want of means is, perhaps, the chief cause of the comparatively small number of their marriages, though it is undoubtedly true that what are termed "mixed" marriages are numerous.

The disparity between the number of marriages solemnized by the clergy of the Church of England and what might be expected from the numerical strength of the denomination is also very great. During the year 1894 there were celebrated 2,895 marriages according to the rites of this Church, being 37·77 per cent. of the total marriages, while the percentage of its adherents, as shown by the census of 1891, was 44·42. A glance at the following table will show that the number of marriages celebrated during 1894 by ministers of other denominations,

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notably the Presbyterian, Methodist, Congregational, and Baptist, far exceeded their apparent due proportions :—

Denomination.	No. of Marriages.	Percentage of total Marriages.	Percentage of adherents to total population, census 1891.
Church of England	2,895	37·77	44·42
Roman Catholic	1,361	17·75	25·34
Presbyterian	1,042	13·59	9·66
Wesleyan and Primitive Methodist	1,008	13·15	9·69
Congregational	351	4·58	2·13
Baptist	120	1·56	1·16
Hebrew	20	0·26	0·48
Other Denominations	427	5·57	7·12
Registrars' Offices	442	5·77	.....

The following table shows the number of marriages registered by the principal denominations during the last eight years :—

Denomination.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Church of England	3,056	3,134	2,885	3,126	3,323	3,216	3,022	2,895
Presbyterian	1,030	977	979	965	1,142	1,055	983	1,042
Wesleyan Methodist	770	815	753	798	885	816	862	821
Primitive Methodist	227	256	271	256	282	241	218	187
United Methodist Free Church	....	....	....	12	36	29	30	20
Lay Methodist	....	....	....	....	....	....	8	14
Baptist	120	133	167	118	118	119	121	120
Independent, Congregationalist	562	543	546	540	500	456	386	351
German Evangelical, Lutheran	20	28	28	23	17	19	17	23
Bible Christian	....	....	....	....	18	13	11	17
Christian, Church of Christ	34	35	28	33	15	17	14	154
Catholic Apostolic Church	....	....	4	5	....	2	2	....
Society of Friends (Quakers)	1	....	1	....	1	1	....	....
Swedenborgian, New Church	1	3	4	1	....	1	....	....
Bethel Union	....	....	....	....	....	....	10	45
Salvation Army	10	22	26	41	37	44	29	29
Unitarian	1	4	6	10	11	9	6	114
Other Sects	2	1	....	1	2	35	4	11
Roman Catholic	1,221	1,350	1,288	1,373	1,510	1,469	1,462	1,361
Hebrew	27	32	35	23	23	14	21	20
District Registrars	508	511	509	551	537	466	543	442
Total Marriages	7,590	7,844	7,530	7,876	8,457	8,022	7,749	7,666

During the past two years there have come into existence certain institutions, calling themselves "Matrimonial Agencies," which combine the easy formalities of a district registrar's office with the attendance of a minister. It is to the connection of certain ministers with these institutions that the otherwise unaccountable increase in the number of marriages performed according to the rites of some of the smaller denominations during the year 1894 is due.

The New South Wales marriage registers give no information as to the ages of bride and bridegroom at the time of marriage. Sufficient is

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known, however, to warrant the assumption that these ages correspond closely with those in Victoria, where they are 29·5 years for males and 25·1 years for females. An examination of the Victorian figures for recent years shows that in about 58 per cent. of marriages the husband is older than the wife; in about 33 per cent. the ages of both parties are nearly equal; and in the remaining 9 per cent. the wife is older than the husband. About 2·26 per cent. of bridegrooms are minors; 68·65 per cent. are between 21 and 30 years; 19·29 per cent. between 30 and 40; 5·73 per cent. between 40 and 50; and the remaining 4·07 per cent. over 50 years old. Of brides, 21·00 per cent. are found to be minors; 65·62 per cent. are between 21 and 30; 9·16 per cent. between 30 and 40; 2·93 per cent. between 40 and 50; and 1·29 per cent. over 50 years old.

The number of minors who marry is ascertained every year in New South Wales, and the following table gives the number of males and females under the age of 21 years who were married during the ten years 1885–1894:—

Year.	Minors.		Percentage of		
	Bridegrooms.	Brides.	Bridegrooms.	Brides.	Persons married.
1885	207	1,949	2·72	25·58	14·15
1886	187	1,806	2·39	23·12	12·76
1887	181	1,911	2·38	25·18	13·78
1888	195	2,002	2·48	25·52	14·00
1889	169	1,955	2·24	25·96	14·10
1890	149	1,931	1·89	24·52	13·20
1891	177	2,085	2·09	24·65	13·37
1892	177	1,889	2·21	23·55	12·88
1893	177	1,993	2·28	25·72	14·00
1894	167	1,905	2·18	24·84	13·51

From the foregoing figures it is evident that the marriage age of females must be some years lower than that of males. At the census of 1891, the average age of the married males was 41·43 years, and that of the married females 36·96; this showed a difference of 4·47 years, which agrees with the estimated average age at marriage given above, and with the difference in the average ages of the parents of children born in the Colony, viz., 5·23 years.

First Marriages and Remarriages.

In the decade between the census of 1881 and that of 1891, the total number of marriages in the Colony was 74,388, and the social condition of the contracting parties was recorded as follows:—

Bachelors	68,127	Spinsters	67,909
Widowers	6,191	Widows	6,410
Divorced men	70	Divorced women	69

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The average annual number of marriages during that period may be assumed to have been—

First marriages.		Remarriages.	
Bachelors	6,813	Widowers and divorced men	626
Spinsters	6,791	Widows and divorced women	648

During 1894 there were registered :—

Marriages between—	
Bachelors and Spinsters	6,616
,, Widows	374
,, Divorced	58
Widowers and Spinsters	369
,, Widows	205
,, Divorced	13
Divorced and Spinsters	24
,, Widows	5
,, Divorced	2
Total	7,666

Since very few marriages are contracted by males before the age of 21 or after that of 50, or by females before the age of 18 or after that of 45, for the purpose of ascertaining the probability of marriage the population at other ages may be omitted from consideration. The mean number of marriageable males during 1894 was 107,932 ; and of females, 66,533. These comprised 103,172 bachelors, 4,760 widowed and divorced males, 61,223 spinsters, and 5,310 widows and divorced females. From this it would appear that the annual marriage rate per thousand is, approximately, for bachelors, 66 ; for widowers and divorced men, 132 ; for spinsters, 110 ; and for widows and divorced women, 122. As regards the probability of marriage, therefore, the widower holds the highest place and the bachelor the lowest, while the widow has a slight advantage over the spinster.

Duration of Life after Marriage.

Although the ages of the parties contracting marriage are not inserted in the marriage registers, the information may be obtained indirectly from the death registers, which contain many interesting particulars relating to the life of the person whose death is recorded. From the particulars thus obtained it is possible to establish the average duration of life after marriage. Tables giving detailed information on this subject will be found in the "Statistical Register"; for this volume the following particulars, which relate to the year 1893, and which deal with 2,213 married males and 2,125 married females whose ages both

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at the time of marriage and of death were known, must suffice. It is obvious that some years must yet elapse before a proper mean period applicable to each age can be established, as the records were only tabulated for the first time for the year 1893 :—

Age at Marriage.	Period lived after Marriage.		Age at Marriage	Period lived after Marriage.	
	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.
years.	years.	years.	years.	years.	years.
14	...	10	42	23	29
15	...	34	43	21	26
16	15	39	44	18	18
17	32	35	45	22	...
18	33	33	46	25	...
19	33	31	47	21	27
20	39	32	48	21	8
21	34	27	49	37	...
22	32	29	50	23	20
23	30	29	51	22	1
24	32	27	52	13	8
25	30	31	53	12	12
26	28	27	54	13	13
27	27	28	55	...	...
28	26	32	56	22	...
29	28	26	57	4	...
30	31	33	58	7	17
31	24	22	59	10	...
32	26	26	60	21	...
33	27	30	61	22	...
34	28	34	62	10	4
35	26	29	63	11	...
36	31	28	66	17	...
37	28	24	70	...	22
38	25	21	71	7	...
39	25	41			
40	29	24	Average	29	30
41	21	28			

Fecundity of Marriages.

The records relating to deaths also show the issue, both living and dead, of the deceased. During the year 1893 there died 2,581 married males and 2,404 married females. The total issue of the males was: living, 5,417 male children and 5,123 female children; dead, 1,756 male and 1,444 female children; total, 13,740 children, or an average of 5·52. The issue of the 2,404 married women was: living, 4,500 males and 4,371 females; dead, 1,632 males and 1,444 females; total, 11,947 children, or an average of 5·12. It must be stated that in cases where the deceased was married more than once, the age at the first marriage

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only is noted in the following table, while the total family, whether by one or more marriages, is included. The table shows no issue of females who married after reaching age 45 :—

Age at Marriage.	Average number of Children resulting from marriage of—		Age at Marriage.	Average number of Children resulting from marriage of—	
	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.
Years.			Years.		
14	.....	3·50	42	4·06	0·80
15	.....	7·08	43	2·57	2·60
16	4·00	6·77	44	2·73	0·33
17	3·60	7·34	45	3·67	.....
18	5·40	6·17	46	4·75	.....
19	7·77	6·43	47	2·86	.....
20	6·87	5·94	48	2·91	.....
21	6·73	5·33	49	7·00	.....
22	6·61	5·12	50	4·00	.....
23	5·82	4·92	51	1·00	.....
24	6·12	5·28	52	2·29	.....
25	6·17	4·56	53	1·80	.....
26	5·93	3·95	54	1·75	.....
27	5·88	3·97	55	.....	.....
28	4·97	4·29	56	0·50	.....
29	5·12	4·34	57	0·00	.....
30	5·70	3·29	58	0·50	.....
31	5·17	3·15	59	2·00	.....
32	4·97	2·58	60	1·33	.....
33	5·42	4·07	61	1·00	.....
34	4·63	2·06	62	0·50	.....
35	5·19	1·85	63	0·33	.....
36	4·90	1·15	66	2·00	.....
37	5·68	1·20	70	.....	.....
38	3·93	1·14	71	.....	.....
39	5·25	1·62	Not stated.	4·65	4·44
40	5·12	1·15			
41	3·84	1·20	Average..	5·52	5·12

The average number of children born to a marriage in each colony, during the decennial period, 1885-1894, is shown below :—

Colony	Average number of children per marriage.	Colony.	Average number of children per marriage.
New South Wales...	5·78	Western Australia.	6·57
Victoria	4·82	Tasmania	4·99
Queensland	5·54	New Zealand	5·24
South Australia.....	4·73	Australasia...	5·25

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The average for New South Wales is established by the foregoing table; for the other colonies the ordinary empirical formula in use amongst statisticians has been employed. There is no doubt that the formula gives somewhat too high an average when applied to these colonies, although it works out correctly enough when applied to more settled countries. The average number of children to a marriage in the United Kingdom is :—

England and Wales	4·30
Ireland	5·38
Scotland	4·56

The figures for Ireland are exceptionally high, which is somewhat surprising, as the average age of persons marrying there is much higher than in Australia. The lowest number of children born to a marriage in any of the important European countries is in France, where the average is only 3·04.

Conjugal Condition of the People.

Out of the 1,123,954 persons who formed the census population of New South Wales, exclusive of the 8,280 aborigines, there were 166,303 husbands and 165,571 wives, in addition to 16,872 males and 25,787 females who had been married but who had lost their partners by death; there were also 178 males and 126 females who had been married but had had their union dissolved by means of the Divorce Court; and there were 423,445 males and 324,226 females who had never been married at all, including, of course, children under marriageable age. But out of the total number of husbands mentioned above there were 24,647 whose wives were away; and out of the total number of wives there were 23,915 whose husbands were away. The absentees included those who were out of the Colony, those who were working or visiting at places other than where their wives resided, as well as those who were separated from their consorts altogether. Provision was made in the census schedules for recording details respecting the age, birthplace, religion, etc., of every person in the Colony, and where husbands and wives were together of course a comparison of the number of each class can be made, though this is impossible in the case of those who were away from each other, for there are no means of knowing that a man in one part of the Colony was the husband of a woman in another place. Two of the husbands whose wives were absent from them were only 16 years of age, six were 17, thirteen were 18, twenty-one were 19, and fifty-nine were only 20. Of the wives whose husbands were away, four were girls only 15 years of age, eighteen were 16 years old, forty-seven were 17, and over one hundred were only 18 years old. With regard to the 141,656 married couples who were together at the census-taking, some interesting particulars may be gained from an inspection of the following table :—

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Ages of Husbands.	Ages of Wives.																		Husbands with wives at home.
	14, 15, and 16.	17	18	19	20 and under 25.	25 and under 30.	30 and under 35.	35 and under 40.	40 and under 45.	45 and under 50.	50 and under 55.	55 and under 60.	60 and under 65.	65 and under 70.	70 and under 75.	75 and under 80.	80 and upwards.	Not stated.	
16 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17 ,,	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
18 ,,	..	1	4	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
19 ,,	4	8	19	15	19	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	69
20 ,,	9	15	26	39	117	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	212
21 and under 25	48	127	311	526	3,683	793	78	16	8	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5,592
25 and under 30	28	95	293	540	8,164	9,849	1,647	231	45	12	4	2	..	1	..	..	..	7	20,418
30 and under 35	11	23	81	164	3,908	10 710	8,997	1,590	251	50	16	4	2	..	..	..	..	6	25,813
35 and under 40	3	6	24	44	1,090	4,661	8,601	6,782	1,261	274	54	16	10	4	1	..	..	7	22,268
40 and under 45	1	..	5	12	305	1,406	3,911	5,841	4,886	935	197	46	9	2	2	2	..	7	17,567
45 and under 50	1	..	4	3	106	531	1,626	3,214	4,940	4,143	806	152	27	8	2	1	..	8	15,572
50 and under 55	..	1	2	1	61	204	601	1,187	2,495	3,778	2,886	617	139	22	4	2	..	5	11,945
55 and under 60	..	1	..	1	21	64	190	400	918	2,008	2,580	2,085	438	108	25	5	2	3	8,844
60 and under 65	..	..	..	1	8	24	55	141	853	636	1,355	1,682	1,367	301	83	17	3	1	6,027
65 and under 70	..	..	..	..	4	15	23	46	105	208	376	707	804	618	172	32	4	1	3,110
70 and under 75	..	1	..	..	..	5	8	15	41	73	212	268	462	482	370	93	15	..	2,045
75 and under 80	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	5	7	8	28	64	125	185	188	254	119	..	987
80 and under 85	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	1	9	19	43	71	62	87	80	28	..	403
85 and under 90	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	12	6	18	23	17	11	..	90
90 and under 95	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	1	1	8	3	9	..	26
95 and under 100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	..	5	..	9
100 and upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	3
Not stated	..	..	1	1	5	5	7	2	3	..	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	46	75
Wives with husbands at home	105	278	771	1,348	17,495	7,779	25,747	19,473	15,255	12,130	8,539	5,703	3,463	1,807	963	506	197	92	141,656

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It will be seen from the foregoing table that while the majority of marriages were contracted between people of suitable ages, there were nevertheless some discrepancies and anomalies. There was one wife only 14 years of age, whose husband was between 21 and 25 years old. Two children of 15 had husbands between 30 and 35, and two girls of 16 were married to men between 40 and 50. A still wider disparity is observable in the case of a girl of 17 married to a man between 70 and 75; two other girls of this age had spouses between 50 and 60 years old. Among the wives 19 years of age there were three with husbands between 50 and 65. One woman under 30 years of age was mated to a man over 80 years of age, and another woman between 35 and 40 years old had a husband over 85 years of age. In some instances, also, the wives were much older than the husbands, as in the case of the two wives between 75 and 80 whose partners were between 40 and 45; another woman between 70 and 75 had a husband under 40; and another, between 65 and 70, was mated to a man under 30 years of age. The three oldest husbands were each over 100 years; the oldest wives were five between 95 and 100 years of age. The youngest husbands were three of 17 years, each of whom was married to a girl slightly older than himself; in fact, the united ages of the three couples only amounted to 108. The youngest wife was 14 years old; there were twelve of 15 years, and ninety-two only 16 years of age. Seventy-five husbands and ninety-two wives made no statement as regards their age.

The average age of husbands was 41·50 years, and of wives 37·00 years, showing a difference of four years and a half in favour of the wives. The average age of widows was 55 years, but there were 8 widows of under 20 years; 4,091 from 20 to 40 years; 11,417 from 40 to 60 years; 10,227 over 60 years; and 44 of ages unspecified.

Allusion has been made to the number of women whose husbands were away from them on the 5th April, 1891. It is obvious that the conditions of settlement in this Colony are such that many men must of necessity have been absent from their partners on the day in question; but when due allowance is made on this score it must be confessed there are many wives deserted by, or permanently separated from, their husbands. There is evidence to warrant the supposition that the number of such is not less than 11,000, and if to these be added the widows there will be about 35,000 widowed or deserted women out of a total of 191,500 who were or had been married.

Birthplaces of Married People.

The nationalities of the 141,656 married couples who were together at the taking of the census is shown in the following set of figures :—

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Birthplaces of Husbands.	Birthplaces of Wives.																Husbands with Wives at home.
	Australasia.								United Kingdom.								
	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	Australia undefined.	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland	Other British Possessions.	Germany.	United States.	Other foreign countries.	Born at Sea and unspecified.	
Australasia—																	
New South Wales	41,403	1,698	511	232	38	318	210	4	3,714	680	2,146	76	143	79	77	163	51,492
Victoria	2,334	1,623	43	205	5	81	66	1	417	88	194	18	10	11	11	27	5,134
Queensland	353	40	60	6	..	4	5	1	69	9	28	1	4	2	2	..	584
South Australia	325	187	8	889	4	21	11	1	229	32	86	4	19	6	2	4	1,828
Western Australia	41	9	1	9	4	..	..	..	14	..	5	..	..	1	1	..	85
Tasmania	561	157	14	33	1	98	18	1	175	31	72	4	7	2	2	3	1,279
New Zealand	370	54	7	11	1	14	80	..	123	16	40	6	3	1	2	5	733
Australia undefined	10	2	..	..	..	2	1	71	19	2	10	1	..	..	..	2	120
United Kingdom—																	
England and Wales	13,670	1,602	280	692	28	458	313	43	22,005	1,365	3,306	177	172	93	166	160	44,530
Scotland	2,784	358	72	106	5	81	58	8	1,389	4,135	824	50	38	20	26	35	9,989
Ireland	4,644	460	75	130	15	83	50	11	1,217	399	9 466	39	34	30	29	46	16,728
Other British possessions	389	57	10	15	1	19	12	4	242	54	116	57	2	8	15	5	1,006
Germany	918	127	19	101	..	30	18	4	420	80	335	12	1,085	6	47	14	3,216
United States	301	47	6	12	1	9	5	2	131	31	87	8	5	59	6	3	713
Other foreign countries	1,398	186	45	56	2	48	26	8	659	131	484	15	86	10	643	13	3,810
Born at Sea and unspecified	206	27	4	7	..	9	..	..	75	15	40	..	5	4	3	14	409
Wives with Husbands at home	69,707	6,634	1,155	2,504	105	1,375	873	159	30,898	7,068	17,239	468	1,613	332	1,032	424	141,656

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With regard to birthplaces, no less than 41,403 of the 51,492 husbands born in New South Wales had wives who were also native born; 3,714 had married women from England and Wales; 2,146 had Irish wives; and 1,698 had chosen for themselves partners from Victoria. Of the wives born in this Colony, numbering 69,707, in addition to the 41,403 who were married to their countrymen, 13,670 had husbands from England and Wales; 4,644 had chosen Irishmen; 2,784 had Scottish partners; and 2,334 were married to natives of Victoria. There were in this Colony 5,134 husbands and 6,634 wives born in Victoria, but there were only 1,623 couples who both hailed from Victoria. It will be noticed that the number of wives from each of the other Australasian Colonies is greater than the number of husbands. This is notably the case as regards Queensland, as the census showed that there were 1,155 wives in New South Wales who were born in the northern colony, while the number of husbands who came thence was only 584. At the same time there were only 60 couples in New South Wales both of whom were born in Queensland.

Religions of Married People.

The following table shows the religious professions of the 141,656 married couples who were living together when the census was taken:—

Religions of Husbands.	Religions of Wives.										
	Church of England.	Roman Catholic.	Presbyterian.	Wesleyan and other Methodist.	Baptist.	Congregationalist.	Lutheran.	Salvation Army.	Other Christian Sects.	Jews.	Other Religions.
Church of England ..	55,391	5,832	1,501	1,159	204	202	31	131	73	34	92
Roman Catholic	3,028	26,253	361	196	17	37	35	13	75	9	27
Presbyterian	1,978	853	11,247	296	62	60	8	24	28	1	24
Wesleyan and other Methodist	954	304	277	13,263	83	44	9	78	21	..	26
Baptist	230	57	58	93	1,481	34	..	11	16	1	3
Congregationalist	277	89	57	79	43	2,957	2	6	8	..	6
Lutheran	453	278	103	76	12	26	666	6	15	..	9
Salvation Army	95	25	14	87	3	12	2	1,154	3	..	6
Other Christian Sects..	290	148	56	82	14	25	8	11	1,370	1	25
Jews	111	28	11	8	..	..	1	1	5	675	2
Other religions	1,617	770	299	412	106	113	15	47	87	11	2,407

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The total number of husbands and wives of each denomination enumerated in the figures just given, and the number of married couples where both parties belonged to the same denomination, will be found in the table herewith :—

Denominations.	Husbands with Wives at home at time of Census.	Wives with Husbands at home at time of Census.	Married Couples both of the same Denomination.
Church of England	64,650	64,424	55,391
Roman Catholic	30,051	34,637	26,253
Presbyterian	14,581	13,984	11,247
Wesleyan and other Methodists	15,064	15,751	13,263
Baptist	1,984	2,030	1,481
Congregational	3,524	3,510	2,957
Lutheran	1,644	777	666
Salvation Army	1,401	1,482	1,154
Other Christian Sects	2,031	1,701	1,370
Jews	842	732	675
Other Religions	5,884	2,628	2,407

No very remarkable discrepancies are disclosed by the tables just given; indeed, it will be seen that as regards religion, as well as birthplace, as shown in the table on page 915, the married couples were on the whole fairly matched. Out of 64,650 husbands and 64,424 wives belonging to the Church of England, there were 55,391 couples who both belonged to that denomination; and out of 30,051 husbands and 34,637 wives attached to the Church of Rome, there were 26,253 cases in which both parties belonged to that Church. There were therefore only 9,259 male members of the Church of England, and 9,033 females, who had married out of their own communion; while among the Roman Catholics only 3,798 males and 8,384 females had contracted mixed marriages. Similar consistency will be noticed with regard to all the principal denominations. Among the Presbyterians there were 11,247 couples who both belonged to that Church, while 3,334 males and 2,737 females had married persons of other religious bodies. Only 1,801 male and 2,488 female Methodists had married persons of other denominations, although there were 13,263 couples of which both parties were Methodists.

Marriage Laws.

The law relating to marriages is contained in four Acts of Parliament, the principal of which is Act 19 Vic. No. 30, "An Act to Amend and Consolidate the Laws affecting the solemnization of Marriage." This Act determines that the marriage ceremony is to be performed by an officiating minister duly registered for that purpose; but it is provided

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that, in cases where the contracting parties conscientiously object to a religious ceremony, or where the services of a minister are not available, they may sign a declaration to that effect, and be married by a District Registrar. The Act further provides for the signing of a declaration by both parties to the effect that they believe there is no impediment in the way of or lawful objection to their marriage on account of relationship, former marriage, want of consent in case of minors, or on other grounds. Minors must produce the written consent of their father, or if the father do not reside in New South Wales, of the mother or guardian, and in the absence of these, of a magistrate specially appointed "to give consent to the marriage of minors." The marriage ceremony is to be celebrated in the presence of two witnesses. Penalties for wilfully marrying minors, or for aiding and abetting in doing so, are imposed, the maximum being a fine of £500, or imprisonment for five years. Forgery in connection with forms of consent, etc., is punishable with five years' hard labour or hard labour on the roads.

Act 19 Vic. No. 34, "An Act for Registering Births, Deaths, and Marriages," provides for the registration of officiating ministers, and for the transmission by them to the District Registrars of copies of certificates. District Registrars are to forward these copies to the General Registry Office, where they are indexed for future reference. Act 42 Vic. No. 5, the "Clergy Returns Transfer Act," provided for the handing over to the General Registry Office of registers previously kept by certain of the clergy. Act 55 Vic. No. 34, the "Marriages Validation and Marriage Law Amendment Act," validated marriages, celebrated since the passing of Act 19 Vic. No. 30, in which the required declaration was not signed, and provided that henceforth the declaration should be endorsed on the back of the marriage certificate. Omission to sign it is made punishable as a misdemeanour.

Divorces.

The grounds on which divorces and judicial separations are granted in New South Wales are shown in the chapter of this volume dealing with Law and Crime. The amending Act, 55 Vic. No. 37, under which the grounds of divorce were multiplied, has greatly increased the business of the Court; so much has this been the case that out of a total of 1,523 petitions for divorce and 119 for judicial separation presented to the Court from 1873 to the end of 1894, no less than 904 petitions for divorce and 64 for judicial separation were presented in the last three years. Out of the 1,523 petitions for divorce, 323 of which were presented *in forma pauperis*, 45 were dismissed and 207 were not proceeded with to 30th June, 1895. In the remaining 1,271 cases decrees *nisi* were granted, of which 1,084 had been made absolute, and 187 had not been made absolute to 30th June, 1895. Of the 119 petitions for judicial separation, 3 were dismissed, 53 were not proceeded with, and

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the remaining 63 were granted. During the period of twenty-two years there were only 11 petitions for nullity of marriage. Of these, 2 were not proceeded with, and the remaining 9 were granted. Out of 11 petitions for restitution of conjugal rights, 2 were dismissed and 7 not proceeded with. In only two cases were decrees *nisi* granted, and of these two decrees only one had been made absolute to 30th June, 1895.

Prior to 1892 no divorce causes were tried at Circuit Courts. During the last three years this procedure has been allowed, but it has not been followed to any great extent, for out of 798 cases only 10 have been tried in the country, while the remaining 788 have been tried at the Supreme Court, Sydney.

The grounds of the 1,271 suits in which decrees *nisi* for divorce were granted are as follow:—Adultery, 496; incestuous adultery, 3; adultery and cruelty, 135; adultery and desertion, 125; adultery and habitual drunkenness, 25; cruelty, 13; cruelty and desertion, 33; cruelty and habitual drunkenness, 47; cruelty and imprisonment for over three years, 1; desertion, 297; desertion and habitual drunkenness, 38; desertion and frequent conviction for crime, 2; desertion and imprisonment for over three years, 1; habitual drunkenness, 14; habitual drunkenness and imprisonment for over three years, 2; frequent conviction for crime, 3; imprisonment for over three years, 5; bigamy, with adultery, 28; non-consummation of marriage, 3. The grounds of the 63 suits in which decrees of judicial separation were granted are as follow:—Adultery, 11; adultery and cruelty, 12; adultery and desertion, 5; adultery and habitual drunkenness, 1; cruelty, 23; cruelty and desertion, 1; cruelty and habitual drunkenness, 4; cruelty and violence, 2; desertion, 1; desertion and habitual drunkenness, 1; habitual drunkenness, 2. It has to be pointed out that the grounds of suits enumerated were the principal grounds, while additional grounds, such as "leaving without means of support," "neglect of domestic duties," and others, were in many cases combined with them. Of the 9 decrees of nullity of marriage granted to the close of 1894, 3 were granted on the ground of bigamy with adultery, 5 on the ground of non-consummation of marriage, and 1 on the ground of lunacy.

In the 1,271 suits for divorce the husband was the petitioner in 503 cases, and the wife in 768; in the 63 suits for judicial separation the husband was the petitioner in 6 cases, and the wife in 57; while of the 9 decrees for nullity of marriage, 4 were granted at the suit of the husband, and 5 at the suit of the wife. Husbands succeeded, therefore, in a total of 513 suits, and wives in 830.

The countries in which the 1,343 dissolved marriages had been celebrated were as follow:—New South Wales, 1,034; Victoria, 73; Queensland, 35; South Australia, 12; Tasmania, 12; New Zealand, 32; Fiji, 3; England, 98; Wales, 7; Scotland, 7; Ireland, 5; India, 6;

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Cape Colony, 3; Canada, 1; Denmark, 1; Italy, 1; Russia, 1; United States, 4; New Caledonia, 1; China, 1 (marriage between a Scotchman and an Englishwoman); not stated, 6.

The religious denominations according to the rites of which the 1,343 marriages resulting in divorce, judicial separation, and nullity of marriage had been celebrated, were:—Church of England, 534; Free Church of England, 9; Roman Catholic, 138; Presbyterian, 239; Church of Scotland, 1; Victorian Free Church, 1; Wesleyan, 116; Primitive Methodist, 12; United Methodist Free Church, 3; Baptist, 21; Congregationalist, 93; Lutheran, 3; Bible Christian, 4; Christian Church, 4; Society of Friends, 1; Unitarian, 1; Protestant (undefined) 1; Hebrew, 9; not stated, 23; Registrar's offices (including 1 according to civil rites, Italy, and 1 by civil contract, Scotland), 130.

The duration of the marriages dissolved was as follows:—Under 1 year, 6; 1 year, 7; 2 years, 17; 3 years, 31; 4 years, 42; 5 years, 73; 6 years, 97; 7 years, 85; 8 years, 109; 9 years, 90; 10 and under 15 years, 375; 15 and under 20 years, 230; 20 and under 25 years, 95; 25 and under 30 years, 48; 30 and under 35 years, 22; 35 and under 40 years, 10; 40 years and over, 6.

In 497 cases there was no issue of the marriage dissolved; in 290 cases there was 1 child; in 210 cases, 2 children; in 127 cases, 3 children; in 61 cases, 4 children; in 50 cases, 5 children; in 20 cases, 6 children; in 13 cases, 7 children; in 7 cases, 8 children; in 14 cases, 9 children; in 1 case, 10 children; in 4 cases, 11 children; in 2 cases, 14 children; and in 1 case 15 children; while in 46 cases the number of children was not stated.

The conjugal condition of the contracting parties to the marriages concerning which the petitions were granted, is shown in the following table:—

Conjugal condition of Males.	Conjugal condition of Females.				Total Males.
	Spinster.	Widow.	Divorced.	Not stated.	
Bachelor	1,031	44	1	4	1,080
Widower	36	19	1	1	57
Divorced	1	.....	1	.....	2
Not stated	62	12	.....	129	203
Total, Females	1,130	75	3	134	1,342

These figures are exclusive of a nullity suit granted on account of a previous existing marriage of the husband.

Among the 1,343 marriages dissolved from 1873 to the close of 1894 there were 476 in which the age of either husband or wife, or of both, at the time the marriage was contracted, was unknown. Of the remaining

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867 cases it may be said that the great majority related to marriages contracted between parties of suitable ages, about 490 of them being between husbands of the ages between 21 and 40 years and wives of the ages between 18 and 30 years. In nearly 300 cases, however, the marriage had been contracted at very early ages, the husband being below 21 years in 230 cases, and the wife below 18 in 170 cases, while there were over 60 cases in which the husband was less than 21 and the wife less than 18 at the time of marriage. There were only about 40 cases in which the husband had been over 40 at the time of marriage, and less than 20 in which the wife had been over 30, while cases in which the husband had been over 40 and the wife over 30 numbered but 15.

Perhaps the union which presented the most peculiar features was one in which the husband was 14 and the wife 15 at the time of marriage. After a duration of 31 years the bond was severed, on the petition of the husband, on account of the wife's adultery, but ultimately the petitioner neglected to have the decree made absolute. Another extreme case was that of a woman of 35 who married a man of 75, and after one year's endurance of her husband's cruelty filed a petition for judicial separation, which was, however, not further proceeded with.

The nationalities of husbands and wives whose marriages were dissolved call for no particular comment. Of the husbands, natives of New South Wales, England, Ireland, Scotland, and Victoria form the only large groups, in the order named; while among the wives the order is slightly altered, Victorians coming next to Englishwomen, and Irishwomen being more numerous than natives of Scotland. As might be expected, there is a much greater preponderance of natives of New South Wales among the wives than among the husbands, the numbers being 670 and 449 respectively, while in 349 cases both husband and wife were natives of the Colony. There were 347 Englishmen and 250 Englishwomen whose marriages were dissolved, while England was the birthplace of both husband and wife in 128 cases. After these the most numerous groups in which husband and wife were natives of the same country were those of Victoria and Scotland, but in each group there were only 16 cases. The other groups, except the 15 cases in which both husband and wife were natives of Ireland, are too small to deserve mention.

Births.

The mean annual birth-rate of the Australasian Colonies for the ten years ended 1894 was 33·64 per thousand. The highest average was that of Queensland, viz., 36·73; then came New South Wales, with 35·13; Western Australia, with 34·64; Tasmania, with 33·93; South Australia, with 33·73; Victoria, with 32·13; and New Zealand, with 30·13. In all the Colonies the rate per thousand is declining, the figures for the year 1894 being as follow:—New South Wales, 31·48; Victoria, 29·12; Queensland, 31·86; South Australia, 30·03; Western

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Australia, 28·86; Tasmania, 31·11; and New Zealand, 27·28. The decline in Western Australia may be set down to the large influx of male population which has taken place during the past two or three years; while the slight decrease shown by Victoria is due to the fact that the rate had already reached a low standard at the beginning of the decade. There can hardly be a doubt that the depression which has prevailed in the Australian Colonies for a number of years has not only had an adverse influence on the marriage-rate, and through the marriage-rate on the birth-rate, but, in addition to this, has in many cases led to the adoption of artificial checks on procreation.

For further comparison the mean annual birth-rates per thousand, for the period of twenty years from 1871 to 1890, are given for several European countries, and from these figures the high rate of New South Wales becomes still more apparent. The information in this table is taken from the report of the Registrar-General of England:—

United Kingdom	32·6	Prussia	36·2
England and Wales	34·0	Austria	38·6
Scotland	33·6	Hungary	44·0
Ireland	24·9	Holland	35·2
France	24·6	Belgium	31·0
Switzerland	29·4	Denmark	31·7
Italy	37·3	Norway	30·7
Germany	38·1	Sweden	29·9

The births in New South Wales increased year by year from 1865 to 1893, and now exceed those of any other Colony. The superiority in regard to the number of births rested with Victoria until the year 1879, when the births in New South Wales exceeded those of its southern neighbour by 94. During each of the last twelve years the excess has been maintained, the greatest being in 1886, when the births registered in this Colony were more numerous than those registered in Victoria by 5,460. In 1894 the difference was 4,694 in favour of New South Wales, although in this Colony there was a decrease in the number of births of 1,391 as compared with the year 1893.

In no year, as far as observation extends, has the number of females born exceeded the males. The numbers of each sex born in New South Wales in 1871 and succeeding years are given below; the figures are exclusive of children stillborn, the births of which are not required to be registered:—

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1871	10,326	9,817	20,143	1891	20,386	19,072	39,458
1876	11,791	11,507	23,298	1892	20,532	19,509	40,041
1881	14,891	14,102	28,993	1893	20,822	19,520	40,342
1886	18,700	17,584	36,284	1894	19,993	18,958	38,951

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The excess of males over females born during the past twenty-three years has varied from 2·08 per cent. in 1875 to 7·65 in 1889, the average being 4·98 per cent. The following table shows the proportion of males born to every 100 females :—

Year.	Males born to every 100 females.	Year.	Males born to every 100 females.
1871	105·19	1891	106·89
1876	102·47	1892	105·24
1881	105·59	1893	106·67
1886	106·35	1894	105·39

Births are more numerous in spring than in any other part of the year, and are fewest in the March quarter. This is found to be the case in the other colonies of Australasia as well as in New South Wales. The following table gives the number of births in each quarter of the year since 1877 :—

Year.	Quarter ending—				Year.	Quarter ending—			
	31 March.	30 June.	30 September.	31 December.		31 March.	30 June.	30 September.	31 December.
1877	5,620	5,837	6,421	5,973	1886	8,451	8,976	9,592	9,265
1878	5,962	6,165	6,976	6,225	1887	9,075	9,183	9,890	9,088
1879	6,231	6,591	7,264	6,847	1888	9,058	9,651	10,162	9,654
1880	6,590	7,116	7,230	7,226	1889	9,125	9,292	9,635	9,243
1881	6,976	6,983	7,514	7,520	1890	9,154	9,667	10,497	9,642
1882	7,195	7,273	7,827	7,407	1891	9,161	9,662	10,345	10,290
1883	7,378	7,755	8,000	8,148	1892	9,753	10,361	9,655	10,272
1884	8,141	8,443	9,160	8,202	1893	9,610	10,187	10,578	9,967
1885	8,178	8,508	9,656	8,701	1894	9,619	9,981	9,551	9,800

Separating the Colony into the metropolitan and country districts, it will be seen from the following table that the birth-rate per thousand in recent years has been higher in the metropolis than in the remainder of the Colony. This is due to the proportionately larger number of females in the metropolitan population as compared with the country population, among whom males largely predominate. The highest rate reached for the whole Colony was 39·38 in 1873. The estimated maximum rate for the metropolis was reached in 1885, when the births were 45·46 per thousand of the population. In the country districts the

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greatest number of births in proportion to the population occurred in 1874, when the rate was 39·72 per thousand :—

Year.	Births per thousand of the population.			Year.	Births per thousand of the population.		
	Metropolis.	Remainder of Colony.	New South Wales.		Metropolis.	Remainder of Colony.	New South Wales.
1873	39·22	39·44	39·38	1884	44·70	35·75	38·44
1874	38·16	39·72	39·29	1885	45·46	35·18	37·79
1875	37·67	38·86	38·53	1886	44·53	34·32	37·43
1876	38·06	38·74	38·55	1887	43·21	34·31	37·06
1877	37·67	38·02	37·92	1888	41·92	35·02	37·20
1878	38·15	38·65	38·50	1889	38·73	33·18	34·97
1879	39·18	38·92	38·99	1890	37·23	34·44	35·36
1880	39·00	38·73	38·81	1891	35·95	33·76	34·50
1881	39·21	37·34	37·90	1892	34·70	33·48	33·89
1882	40·23	35·90	37·20	1893	33·52	33·23	33·33
1883	40·81	35·82	37·32	1894	31·65	31·38	31·48

The excess of births over deaths has not shown a steady increase year by year, but has fluctuated somewhat, as will be seen from the succeeding table. In the whole Colony, during the twenty years from 1875 to 1894, the least excess was 11,757 in 1875, and the highest 25,631 in the year 1892. In the city of Sydney the least excess was in 1875, viz., 489 ; and the highest in 1887, when the number reached 1,835. The suburbs show a more uniform progress than the city. The least excess of births over deaths there also occurred in 1875, when it was 1,261 ; while the greatest excess was 6,960, being, as in the case of the Colony, in the year 1892. In the country districts the number ranged from 9,913 in 1876 to 17,073 in 1892. The excess of births over deaths in New South Wales for the last twenty years was:

Year.	Metropolis.			Country Districts.	New South Wales.	Per cent. of population at end of previous year.
	City of Sydney.	Suburbs.	Total.			
1875	489	1,261	1,750	10,007	11,757	2·04
1876	819	1,373	2,192	9,913	12,105	2·04
1877	1,399	1,925	3,324	10,658	13,982	2·28
1878	1,163	2,023	3,186	11,379	14,565	2·26
1879	1,448	2,499	3,947	12,786	16,733	2·49
1880	995	2,439	3,434	13,497	16,931	2·39
1881	1,495	3,065	4,560	12,897	17,457	2·33
1882	1,229	3,379	4,608	12,278	16,886	2·16
1883	1,523	3,819	5,342	13,690	19,032	2·33
1884	1,594	4,352	5,946	13,780	19,726	2·29
1885	1,250	4,523	5,773	13,988	19,761	2·18
1886	1,610	5,250	6,860	14,837	21,697	2·28
1887	1,835	6,039	7,874	15,914	23,788	2·40
1888	1,599	5,850	7,449	16,668	24,117	2·36
1889	1,431	5,575	7,006	15,493	22,499	2·14
1890	1,615	6,323	7,938	16,804	24,742	2·29
1891	1,343	6,245	7,588	15,584	23,172	2·07
1892	1,598	6,960	8,558	17,073	25,631	2·14
1893	1,279	6,193	7,472	16,848	24,320	2·03
1894	1,430	5,976	7,406	16,328	23,734	1·94

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The mean annual increase to the population by reason of the excess of births over deaths amounts to 2·22 per cent. for a period extending over twenty years—that is, going back to the year 1875.

Notwithstanding that the number of males born is considerably larger than that of females, the actual increase of population from the excess of births over deaths is, owing to the greater mortality amongst male children, greatly in favour of the females. During the ten years which closed with 1894, the number of females added to the community by excess of births exceeded the males by 14,719, or 13·45 per cent.

Ages of Parents.

The ages of mothers of children born in 1894 ranged from 13 to 58 years. As might be expected, the majority of the very young mothers were unmarried; thus of 428 mothers under 18 years of age, 210 were unmarried. The total number of married women who gave birth to children during the year was 36,157, inclusive of mothers of twins and triplets. The following is a statement of the number of married mothers at each age:—

Ages of Married Mothers.	Number of Mothers.	Ages of Married Mothers.	Number of Mothers.
15 years	9	30 years and under 35	8,609
16 ,, ...	41	35 ,, ,, ,, 40	5,731
17 ,, ...	165	40 ,, ,, ,, 45	2,095
18 ,, ...	363	45 years	111
19 ,, ...	694	46 ,, ...	58
20 ,, ...	931	47 ,, ...	32
21 ,, ...	1,316	48 ,, ...	14
22 ,, ...	1,657	49 ,, ...	5
23 ,, ...	1,924	50 ,, ...	1
24 ,, ...	2,022	55 ,, ...	1
25 ,, ...	1,998	58 ,, ...	1
26 ,, ...	2,181	Not stated	4
27 ,, ...	2,079		
28 ,, ...	2,196	Total	36,157
29 ,, ...	1,919		

It will be seen that in one case the age of the mother is stated as 55, and in another as 58. As these two cases were outside the usual experience, inquiries were made, with the result that the accuracy of the records was confirmed. It may be mentioned here that in the first case the age of the father was 45, and in the second 64. During 1893 there were four mothers over 50 years, viz., two of 52 years, one of 53 years, and one of 56 years.

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The average age of the fathers was about 5·2 years higher than that of the mothers. The ages during 1894 ranged from 17 to 82 years, and were as follow :—

Ages of Fathers.	Number of Fathers.	Ages of Fathers.	Number of Fathers.
17 years	3	45 years and under 50	2,198
18 ,,	11	50 ,, ,, 55	931
19 ,,	31	55 ,, ,, 60	255
20 ,,	98	60 ,, ,, 65	94
21 ,,	299	65 years	2
22 ,,	511	66 ,,	9
23 ,,	753	67 ,,	4
24 ,,	1,095	68 ,,	3
25 ,,	1,214	69 ,,	5
26 ,,	1,464	70 ,,	5
27 ,,	1,647	79 ,,	1
28 ,,	1,827	82 ,,	1
29 ,,	2,040	Not stated	7
30 years and under 35	9,652		
35 ,, ,, 40	7,624	Total	36,157
40 ,, ,, 45	4,373		

During the previous year there were nine fathers of 70 years and upwards.

Birthplaces of Parents.

A tabulation of the birthplaces of the 72,314 parents mentioned above shows the following results :—Of the fathers, 18,872 were born in New South Wales ; 2,283 in Victoria ; 345 in Queensland ; 703 in South Australia ; 29 in Western Australia ; 324 in Tasmania ; and 316 in New Zealand. The total number of Australasian-born fathers was, therefore, 22,872. Of Australasian-born mothers there were 28,320, viz. :—23,586 natives of New South Wales ; 2,618 of Victoria ; 551 of Queensland ; 916 of South Australia ; 22 of Western Australia ; 300 of Tasmania ; and 327 of New Zealand. In 15,830 cases both father and mother were natives of New South Wales ; and in 20,708 cases they were natives of one or other of the Australasian Colonies.

There were 11,496 fathers born in the United Kingdom, viz. :—6,987 in England ; 233 in Wales ; 1,678 in Scotland ; and 2,598 in Ireland. Mothers born in the United Kingdom numbered only 7,177, viz. :—3,987 English ; 134 Welsh ; 995 Scotch ; and 2,061 Irish. In 4,788 cases both parents were born in the United Kingdom ; in 2,189 cases both were English ; in 41 cases both Welsh ; in 496 cases both Scotch ; and in 1,039 cases both Irish.

Fathers born in other British Colonies and possessions numbered 198, viz. :—65 born in India and Ceylon ; 1 born in Hong Kong ; 45 born

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in various African possessions; 50 in Canada and Newfoundland; 26 in the West Indies, and 11 elsewhere. Of 109 mothers, 48 were born in India or Ceylon; 32 in African possessions; 15 in Canada; 4 in the West Indies; and 10 elsewhere.

Foreign-born fathers were more numerous. Amongst them were 488 Germans, 74 Frenchmen, 77 Russians, 20 Austrians, 121 Danes, 263 Swedes and Norwegians, 76 Italians, 88 natives of other European countries, 64 Chinese, 33 natives of other Asiatic countries, 147 natives of the United States, 12 natives of other American countries, and 8 Polynesians; total, 1,471. Of 450 foreign-born mothers, 173 were German, 28 French, 22 Russian, 3 Austrian, 25 Danish, 21 Swedish or Norwegian, 43 Italian, 25 natives of other European countries, 18 natives of China, 29 of other Asiatic countries, 53 of the United States, 2 of other American countries, and 8 of Polynesia. There were only 269 cases in which both parents were foreign-born.

Besides the fathers enumerated above, there were 116 who were born at sea, and 4 whose birthplace was not stated. Of mothers there were 97 born at sea, and 4 whose birthplace was not stated.

Birth of First Child.

The period elapsing from the date of marriage to the birth of the first child has been ascertained for 1893 and 1894, but not for previous years. The total number of first births occurring during the two years was 13,925. The time which had elapsed since the ceremony of marriage was performed is shown in the following table:—

Period.	Number of Births.	Period.	Number of Births.	Period.	Number of Births.
1 month and under	361	15 months ...	414	7 years ...	36
2 months	371	16 ,, ...	351	8 ,, ...	36
3 ,, ...	498	17 ,, ...	263	9 ,, ...	18
4 ,, ...	504	18 ,, ...	240	10 ,, ...	12
5 ,, ...	543	19 ,, ...	210	11 ,, ...	12
6 ,, ...	591	20 ,, ...	221	12 ,, ...	7
7 ,, ...	599	21 ,, ...	158	13 ,, ...	6
8 ,, ...	563	22 ,, ...	150	14 ,, ...	6
9 ,, ...	1,489	23 ,, ...	160	15 ,, ...	2
10 ,, ...	1,653	2 years ...	895	16 ,, ...	1
11 ,, ...	1,092	3 ,, ...	319	17 ,, ...	2
12 ,, ...	855	4 ,, ...	138	18 ,, ...	1
13 ,, ...	547	5 ,, ...	96		
14 ,, ...	441	6 ,, ...	64	Total ...	13,925

Of the total number of births shown above there were, therefore, 5,519, or 39·5 per cent., which occurred before ten months had elapsed from the date of marriage; and 4,030, or 28·6 per cent., before or at nine months after marriage.

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Illegitimacy.

The number of illegitimate births in the metropolitan and country districts will be found in the following table. Taking the whole period over which the tables extend, it will be seen that the percentage has increased throughout the Colony, notably in the city and suburbs of Sydney, the increase in the country districts being very slight, as is shown by the percentages given below :—

Year.	Total.			Percentage.		
	Metropolis.	Country Districts.	New South Wales.	Metropolis.	Country Districts.	New South Wales.
1873	285	604	889	4·89	3·86	4·14
1874	329	606	935	5·56	3·72	4·21
1875	345	602	947	5·68	3·65	4·20
1876	394	556	950	6·19	3·28	4·07
1877	382	607	989	5·75	3·52	4·14
1878	425	596	1,021	5·94	3·28	4·03
1879	506	709	1,215	6·44	3·72	4·51
1880	561	665	1,226	6·71	3·36	4·35
1881	592	671	1,263	6·64	3·34	4·36
1882	601	660	1,261	6·24	3·28	4·24
1883	676	642	1,318	6·59	3·05	4·21
1884	786	709	1,495	6·62	3·21	4·40
1885	845	767	1,612	6·89	3·37	4·60
1886	905	782	1,687	6·89	3·38	4·65
1887	873	838	1,711	6·50	3·52	4·59
1888	1,049	909	1,958	7·65	3·66	5·08
1889	1,066	921	1,987	7·99	3·84	5·33
1890	1,056	995	2,051	7·81	3·91	5·26
1891	1,149	966	2,115	8·20	3·80	5·36
1892	1,242	1,047	2,289	8·83	4·02	5·71
1893	1,257	1,253	2,510	9·01	4·75	6·22
1894	1,175	1,218	2,393	8·79	4·76	6·14

Dividing the years since 1870 into quinquennial periods, the average number of illegitimate births as compared with the total births was, for the various divisions of the Colony, as follows :—

Quinquennial Period.	Metropolis.	Remainder of Colony.	New South Wales.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1871–75	5·11	3·72	4·09
1876–80	6·21	3·44	4·22
1881–85	6·60	3·25	4·36
1886–90	7·37	3·67	4·90
1891–94	8·71	4·34	5·86

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Possibly the smaller proportion of illegitimate births noticeable in the country districts is to some extent due to the fact that women who have fallen come to Sydney to hide their shame. The table herewith, showing the number of accouchements at the Benevolent Asylum, certainly gives colour to this supposition, for out of the large number of unmarried women whose confinements took place in that institution it is only reasonable to suppose that the country contributed a considerable quota :—

Year.	Confinements.			Year.	Confinements.		
	Total.	Married Females.	Unmarried Females.		Total.	Married Females.	Unmarried Females.
1865	129	50	79	1880	233	51	182
1866	129	51	78	1881	225	50	175
1867	121	44	77	1882	237	45	192
1868	102	46	56	1883	210	33	177
1869	112	40	72	1884	305	84	221
1870	95	29	66	1885	262	55	207
1871	117	54	63	1886	300	71	229
1872	102	37	65	1887	257	76	181
1873	107	27	80	1888	281	70	211
1874	126	36	90	1889	252	48	204
1875	113	30	83	1890	266	35	231
1876	156	38	118	1891	324	61	263
1877	169	41	128	1892	339	54	285
1878	160	38	122	1893	338	64	274
1879	203	45	158	1894	393	80	313

Taken as a whole, the Colony compares favourably with most other countries, though its rate as computed for the five years 1890–94 is higher than that of any of the other Australasian colonies, as shown in the following table :—

Country.	Illegitimate births per cent.	Country.	Illegitimate births per cent.
New South Wales.....	5·74	Tasmania	4·15
Victoria	5·04	New Zealand.....	3·24
Queensland.....	4·80	England and Wales.	4·33
South Australia.....	2·51	Ireland	2·66
Western Australia ...	4·25	Scotland	7·56

Of the total number of children born in Australasia during the five years, 4·81 per cent. were illegitimate, as compared with 4·53 per cent. in the United Kingdom.

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The following figures, which give the percentages of illegitimate births in a number of foreign countries, refer in nearly every instance to the five years ended with 1893 :—

Country.	Illegitimate births per cent.	Country.	Illegitimate births per cent.
Germany	9·2	Belgium	8·8
Prussia	7·8	Netherlands	3·2
Bavaria	14·1	Sweden	10·2
Saxony	12·4	Norway	7·2
Austria	14·8	Italy	7·1
Hungary	8·2	Portugal	12·1
France	8·5		

As has already been mentioned, some of the mothers of illegitimate children were very young. Their ages in 1894 are shown in the following table :—

Ages of Mothers.	Number of Births.	Ages of Mothers.	Number of Births.
13 years	1	26 years	97
14 ,,	4	27 ,,	83
15 ,,	23	28 ,,	67
16 ,,	62	29 ,,	64
17 ,,	120	30 years and under 35	202
18 ,,	200	35 ,, ,, 40	125
19 ,,	224	40 ,, ,, 45	38
20 ,,	231	45 years	2
21 ,,	227	46 ,,	2
22 ,,	214	50 ,,	2
23 ,,	183	Not stated	4
24 ,,	143		
25 ,,	106	Total	2,424

The birthplaces of the mothers of illegitimate children were as follow :—New South Wales, 1,779 ; Victoria, 175 ; Queensland, 77 ; South Australia, 37 ; Tasmania, 26 ; New Zealand, 27 ; England, 177 ; Wales, 7 ; Scotland, 28 ; Ireland, 73 ; other countries, 12 ; not stated, 6.

Twins and Triplets.

During the year 1894 there were three cases of triplets, comprising 4 males and 4 females, one child being still-born. Twins numbered 365 cases, comprising 362 males and 367 females, in all 729 children, one

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infant having been still-born. The number of children born as triplets and twins formed 1·89 per cent. of the total births.

District.	Triplets.				Twins.			
	No. of cases.	M.	F.	Total.	No. of cases.	M.	F.	Total.
Sydney.....	1	1	2	3	21	26	15	41
Suburbs.....	1	1	1	2	88	99	77	176
Country.....	1	2	1	3	256	237	275	512
Total.....	3	4	4	8	365	362	367	729

The following table shows the number of twins and triplets born in New South Wales during the last ten years, excluding those still-born :—

Year.	Triplets.				Twins.			
	No. of cases.	M.	F.	Total living at Birth.	No. of cases.	M.	F.	Total living at Birth.
1885	2	5	1	6	306	305	307	612
1886	1	.....	3	3	330	284	373	657
1887	1	3	.....	3	310	294	325	619
1888	1	1	2	3	363	371	355	726
1889	1	2	1	3	329	358	298	656
1890	1	3	.....	3	398	405	391	796
1891	.....	.....	.....	.....	393	388	397	785
1892	6	8	10	18	328	332	323	655
1893	5	8	7	15	408	400	414	814
1894	3	4	4	8	365	362	367	729
Ten years...	21	34	28	62	3,530	3,499	3,550	7,049

There were also quartettes in 1888 and 1893.

As shown in the foregoing table, there were 3,530 cases of twins and 21 cases of triplets during the ten years 1885–94. The total

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number of confinements recorded in this period was 378,576. It follows, therefore, that one mother in every 107 gave birth to twins, and one mother in every 18,027 was delivered of three children at a birth.

The ages of the mothers of all twins born during 1894 were as follow:—

Ages of Mothers.	Number of Confinements	Ages of Mothers.	Number of Confinements.
16 years	1	26 years	18
17 ,,	1	27 ,,	11
19 ,,	5	28 ,,	24
20 ,,	4	29 ,,	23
21 ,,	7	30 years and under 35	99
22 ,,	16	35 ,, ,, 40	91
23 ,,	20	40 ,, ,, 45	23
24 ,,	13		
25 ,,	9	Total	365

The ages of 13 unmarried mothers who gave birth to twins are included in the above table.

The ages of the fathers, excluding the 13 cases in which the children were illegitimate, are shown in the following table:—

Ages of Fathers.	Cases of Twins.	Ages of Fathers.	Cases of Twins.
22 years	4	30 years and under 35	89
23 ,,	1	35 ,, ,, 40	90
24 ,,	13	40 ,, ,, 45	48
25 ,,	7	45 ,, ,, 50	25
26 ,,	8	50 ,, ,, 55	16
27 ,,	17	55 ,, ,, 60	3
28 ,,	16		
29 ,,	15	Total	352

Of the mothers of twins, 228 were born in New South Wales; 26 in Victoria; 22 in the other Australasian Colonies; 50 in England and Wales; 15 in Scotland; 19 in Ireland; and 5 in other countries. Of the fathers, 170 were born in New South Wales; in Victoria, 25; in the other Australasian Colonies, 19; in England and Wales, 83; in Scotland, 18; in Ireland, 21; in other countries, 16.

The ages of the parents of triplets were as follow:—In one case the father was 32, and the mother 31; in the second case, the father was 34, and the mother 33; in the remaining case the father was 50, and the mother 40. New South Wales was the birthplace of the three fathers; while of the mothers two were born in New South Wales, and one in Ireland.

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There were, during the two years 1893 and 1894, 113 cases of twins at first birth. The period elapsing between the date of marriage and their birth is shown in the following table :—

Period.	Number of Confinements	Period.	Number of Confinements	Period.	Number of Confinements
1 month	4	10 months ...	5	20 months ...	1
2 months	2	11 ,, ...	9	22 ,, ...	1
3 ,, ...	5	12 ,, ...	9	23 ,, ...	1
4 ,, ...	6	13 ,, ...	3	2 years	9
5 ,, ...	7	14 ,, ...	3	3 ,, ...	3
6 ,, ...	5	15 ,, ...	1	4 ,, ...	1
7 ,, ...	11	16 ,, ...	2		
8 ,, ...	8	18 ,, ..	1	Total	
9 ,, ...	14	19 ,, ...	2		113

The only case of triplets at a first birth during the two years 1893 and 1894 occurred 9 months after marriage.

Years of Marriage of Parents.

The period elapsing from the date of marriage to the birth of the first child has already been dealt with ; quite as interesting is the statement of the number of years of marriage preceding the birth of all children during 1893 and 1894. This is given below, and should be read with the table on page 925, giving the ages of child-bearing women :—

Year of Marriage.	Number of Mothers.		Year of Marriage.	Number of Mothers.	
	1893.	1894.		1893.	1894.
Not married	2,486	2,424	1874	549	450
1894	.....	1,194	1873	474	412
1893	1,232	4,146	1872	394	285
1892	4,518	2,678	1871	268	205
1891	3,008	3,005	1870	213	163
1890	2,973	2,516	1869	151	118
1889	2,468	2,316	1868	109	63
1888	2,406	2,114	1867	48	49
1887	2,277	2,025	1866	59	35
1886	2,162	1,863	1865	43	11
1885	2,018	1,750	1864	12	11
1884	1,863	1,672	1863	10	2
1883	1,822	1,567	1862	4	.....
1882	1,626	1,488	1861	1	1
1881	1,298	1,208	1860	1	.....
1880	1,166	1,020	1859	.....	1
1879	1,130	982	1857	.....	1
1878	956	849	Not stated	.....	7
1877	820	727			
1876	704	668			
1875	654	556	Total ...	39,923	38,582

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Deaths in Childbirth.

During the year 1894 there were registered 267 cases of death resulting from various diseases and casualties incident to childbirth. One death of a mother occurred to every 146 children registered—an unfavourable result as compared with 1893, when 221 deaths occurred, or 1 to every 183 children registered. Puerperal fever was assigned as the cause of death in 110 cases. In 9 of these the mothers were 15 and under 20 years of age; in 29 they were 20 and under 25; in 27 they were 25 and under 30; in 16 they were 30 and under 35; in 23 they were 35 and under 40; in 5 cases 40 and under 45; and in 1 case the mother was over 45. Abortion or miscarriage caused the death of 33 mothers, 2 of whom were between 15 and 20; 3 between 20 and 25; 8 between 25 and 30; 6 between 30 and 35; 7 between 35 and 40; 6 between 40 and 45; and 1 over 45.

There were 30 fatal cases of placenta prævia and flooding. In 1 case the mother was under 20; in 5 cases between 20 and 25; in 3 cases between 25 and 30; in 9 cases between 30 and 35; in 7 cases between 35 and 40; in 3 cases between 40 and 45; and in 2 cases over 45. Puerperal convulsions caused 28 deaths. In 5 cases the age of the mother was between 15 and 20; in 6 cases between 20 and 25; in 5 cases between 25 and 30; in 3 cases between 30 and 35; in 5 between 35 and 40; and in 4 between 40 and 45. Puerperal mania was assigned as the cause of death in 4 cases. In 3 of these the mother's age was between 30 and 35 years; in the remaining case it was over 40. There was only 1 fatal case of phlegmasia dolens, the victim's age being between 30 and 35. The remaining 61 cases had to be classified as "other casualties of childbirth," because in nearly every instance the certificate of death contained simply some entry such as "childbirth." Of the 61 deaths classified under this heading, 3 were those of mothers between the ages of 15 and 20; 8 between 20 and 25; 10 between 25 and 30; 13 between 30 and 35; 15 between 35 and 40; 9 between 40 and 45; and 3 over 45. There were, therefore, altogether 20 mothers between the ages of 15 and 20 who died from diseases incident to childbirth; 51 between the ages of 20 and 25; 53 between 25 and 30, 51 between 30 and 35; 57 between 35 and 40; 28 between 40 and 45; and 7 between 45 and 50.

Of the 267 mothers who died, 241 were married and 26 were single. The number of cases in which children were born alive was 178; the number of cases in which they were still-born, 89. The number of mothers who died at their first confinement was over one-fourth of the total number of fatal cases, amounting to 73 during 1894. The remaining 194 mothers had had previous issue, whether living or dead, viz., 1 child in 30 cases; 2 children in 40 cases; 3 children in 17 cases; 4 children in 24 cases; 5 children in 27 cases; 6 children in 10 cases; 7 children in

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13 cases; 8 children in 11 cases; 9 children in 10 cases; 10 children in 6 cases; 11 children in 3 cases; and 12 children in 3 cases.

Amongst the women who died in childbirth there was one who had been married at the age of 13, and died at the age of 41, at the birth of her twelfth child. One mother who died at the age of 49, at the birth of her first child, had only been married in 1893; while a mother who died at the age of 48, had been married 29 years, and had 13 children. Two mothers, aged 23 and 35 respectively, died after giving birth to twins, and in the first of these cases there was no previous issue. One woman, who was the mother of 11 children, died at the age of 43 from an unlawful operation performed by herself; and a single woman, aged 23, who had previously born two children, perished in a similar manner. In 8 cases the mothers who died in child-bed had been married twice. Of the unmarried mothers who died in childbirth two, aged 20 and 23 respectively, had each previously given birth to two children; and one, aged 27, had had a child six years before.

Deaths.

The number of deaths occurring in the Colony during the last twenty years has averaged annually 16·03 per thousand for males, and 13·62 for females, or 14·93 for the whole population. Compared with the death-rates of other countries, especially those of the Old World, this rate is remarkably low. Yet, as will presently appear, it is higher than might be anticipated from the peculiarly healthy climatic conditions which pertain to New South Wales.

The mean decennial death-rate of the Australasian Colonies from 1885 to 1894 varies from 10·09 per thousand in New Zealand to 16·03 in Western Australia, and averages 13·58, to which the New South Wales rate is the nearest approach. Five colonies are over the mean rate:—Western Australia, with 16·03; Victoria, with 15·21; Queensland, with 14·63; Tasmania, with 14·55; and New South Wales, with 13·67; while two are lower:—South Australia, with 12·48; and New Zealand, with 10·09 per thousand. The number of deaths registered, and the death-rate per 1,000, for the year 1894, were as follow:—

Colony.	Number of deaths.	Death-rate.
New South Wales	15,170	12·26
Victoria	15,430	13·11
Queensland	5,298	12·08
South Australia	4,041	11·56
Western Australia	1,081	14·69
Tasmania	1,938	12·43
New Zealand	6,918	10·19
Australasia	49,876	12·14

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The death-rate of males averages in this Colony 16·03 per thousand, or more than one-sixth higher than that of females. The number of deaths of both sexes and the rates per thousand from 1875 to 1894 will be seen below :—

Year.	Number of Deaths.			Death-rate per 1,000 of mean population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1875	6,245	4,526	10,771	19·64	16·97	18·42
1876	6,508	4,685	11,193	19·82	16·98	18·52
1877	5,877	3,992	9,869	17·19	13·91	15·69
1878	6,284	4,479	10,763	17·55	14·94	16·36
1879	6,082	4,118	10,200	16·16	13·10	14·77
1880	6,638	4,593	11,231	16·76	13·94	15·48
1881	6,753	4,783	11,536	16·12	13·82	15·08
1882	7,596	5,220	12,816	17·34	14·48	16·05
1883	7,116	5,133	12,249	15·45	13·54	14·61
1884	8,325	5,895	14,220	17·12	14·85	16·10
1885	8,900	6,382	15,282	17·43	15·32	16·48
1886	8,501	6,086	14,587	15·95	13·95	15·05
1887	7,776	5,672	13,448	14·12	12·49	13·38
1888	8,453	5,955	14,408	14·94	12·67	13·91
1889	8,674	6,122	14,796	14·93	12·61	13·87
1890	8,282	5,936	14,218	13·82	11·81	12·90
1891	9,558	6,728	16,286	15·41	12·86	14·24
1892	8,544	5,866	14,410	13·38	10·81	12·20
1893	9,289	6,733	16,022	14·23	12·07	13·24
1894	8,714	6,456	15,170	13·15	11·30	12·30
Mean for 20 years				16·03	13·62	14·93

The principal cause of the greater mortality amongst males is found in the nature of their occupations, with the accidents and exposure attendant thereon. This is especially marked in the country districts of the Colony, where deaths from accident are extremely numerous, especially among males. Besides this, the greater delicateness of male infants operates to increase the death-rate as compared with that of females. It has been shown elsewhere that the natural increment to the population by births is in the proportion of 104·98 males to 100 females;

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but, from the causes alluded to, the net increase of population by excess of births over deaths is largely in favour of females. For the ten years, 1885–94, the excess of births over deaths averaged annually for males 1,094, and for females 1,241, a difference of 13·45 per cent. in favour of the females.

The excess of males in the community, with the consequent larger number of male deaths, makes the comparison appear more favourable to female lives than is actually the case. The following table has been computed on the assumption that the males and females in the community are equal in number, as they soon would be if it were not for the excess of males yearly added to the population by immigration. It would appear, however, from the table, that the extra proportion of males born does not counterbalance the extra number of male deaths:—

Year.	Male deaths.	Female deaths.	Computed male deaths, if male and female population were equal.	Excess of computed male over female deaths.	Excess of male over female births.
1885	8,900	6,382	7,261	879	835
1886	8,501	6,086	6,957	871	1,116
1887	7,776	5,672	6,410	738	566
1888	8,453	5,955	7,021	1,066	707
1889	8,674	6,122	7,245	1,123	1,375
1890	8,282	5,936	6,943	1,007	841
1891	9,558	6,728	8,064	1,336	1,314
1892	8,544	5,866	7,261	1,395	1,023
1893	9,289	6,733	7,937	1,204	1,302
1894	8,714	6,456	7,477	1,021	1,022
Total for ten years.....				10,640	10,101

The season of the year in which deaths are most numerous is the quarter ending March; but the number of deaths in the December quarter is nearly as great, and in some years has exceeded that of the first quarter. The deaths in 1891, chiefly owing to a visitation of epidemic influenza, were much more numerous than in 1892, when, compared with the population, they presented a lower rate than is shown

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for any year since 1872. Taking the last ten years, the deaths during each quarter of the year were :—

Year.	Quarter ending—			
	31 March.	30 June.	30 September.	31 December.
1885	3,924	3,750	3,586	4,022
1886	3,718	3,720	3,320	3,829
1887	3,980	3,362	2,805	3,301
1888	3,624	3,595	3,387	3,802
1889	4,101	3,728	3,158	3,809
1890	3,652	3,448	3,516	3,602
1891	3,758	3,535	3,601	5,392
1892	3,982	3,476	3,222	3,730
1893	3,710	3,616	3,859	4,837
1894	3,864	3,579	4,037	3,690

It has already been pointed out that in regard to its death-rate this Colony compares very favourably with the older countries of the world. Taken over a decennial period (1881–90), the death-rates per thousand of mean population in the United Kingdom and several of the leading European countries, are as follow :—

United Kingdom	18·98	Austria	29·51
England and Wales	19·14	Hungary	32·41
Scotland	19·18	Holland	20·97
Ireland	17·94	Belgium	20·31
France	22·01	Denmark	18·61
Spain*	31·04	Norway	16·94
Switzerland	20·82	Sweden	17·05
Italy	27·28		
Germany	25·10	Average	23·15
Prussia	24·69		

* For the period 1878–1884.

Contrast this with the mean decennial rates for the same period (1881–90) in the Colonies :—

New South Wales	14·66	Tasmania	15·61
Victoria	15·56	New Zealand	10·37
Queensland	17·04		
South Australia	13·62	Average, Australasia	14·78
Western Australia	16·59		

There are many causes operating to increase the European rate, which have not yet affected the Colonies. Chief amongst these are the scourges of small-pox and cholera. It is not surprising, therefore, that even the healthiest country of Europe should have a higher annual death-rate than any part of Australasia. Considering the favourable environments of the population in New South Wales, the matter for surprise is not

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that the difference is so great, but that it is not greater. Apart from climatic conditions, which are most favourable here, the social condition of the great body of the people is far superior to that of Europeans, and their occupations are more healthful; and were it not for the pitiable loss of infant life, the death-rate of this Colony would not reach much more than half the European average.

For the purpose of comparison, the obvious divisions of metropolitan and country districts suggest themselves, and the annual death-rate per thousand in each subdivision of the Colony for the years 1875–94 is given in the subjoined table :—

Year.	Metropolis.	Country Districts.	New South Wales.
1875	26·81	15·23	18·42
1876	24·96	16·05	18·52
1877	18·82	14·47	15·69
1878	21·17	14·44	16·36
1879	19·51	12·83	14·77
1880	22·97	12·34	15·48
1881	19·15	13·36	15·08
1882	20·98	14·49	16·05
1883	19·62	12·46	14·61
1884	22·31	13·54	16·10
1885	23·20	13·69	16·48
1886	21·26	12·43	15·05
1887	17·85	11·48	13·38
1888	19·14	11·61	13·91
1889	18·39	11·83	13·87
1890	15·39	11·79	12·90
1891	16·48	13·09	14·24
1892	13·56	11·47	12·20
1893	15·57	12·01	13·24
1894	14·12	11·36	12·26
Mean.....	19·56	13·00	14·93

The death-rate for the whole Colony varied from 12·20 to 18·52, a range of 6·32 per thousand. In the metropolis, however, as will be seen below, the rate varied between 13·56 and 26·81, the range being 13·25 per thousand. In the country districts 11·36 was the lowest rate during the twenty years, and 16·05 the highest, 4·69 being the range :—

Districts.	Per 1,000 of mean population.		
	Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean.
Metropolis (Sydney and suburbs)	26·81	13·56	19·56
Country districts	16·05	11·36	13·00
New South Wales	18·52	12·20	14·93

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Taking the deaths of persons over 5 years of age, the rates during the last ten years for the metropolitan district and the country are not only more favourable, but more equal than those for all persons :—

Districts.	Per 1,000 of mean population.		
	Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean.
Metropolis (Sydney and suburbs)	13·74	8·86	10·49
Country districts	9·65	8·27	8·71
New South Wales	10·91	8·51	9·30

Turning to deaths under 5 years, which may be generally termed the age of infantile life, the chief factor of the excessive death-rate of the city and suburbs will be found :—

Districts.	Per 1,000 of mean population.		
	Maximum.	Minimum.	Mean.
Metropolis (Sydney and suburbs)	77·11	40·74	56·22
Country districts	37·84	28·31	30·85
New South Wales	49·86	32·40	38·85

The lesson conveyed by the above table is a very striking one. The minimum death-rate of infants in the metropolis exceeded the maximum rate of the country by 2·90 per thousand, and the mean rate of the country was little over half the metropolitan. When the circumstances of life in the country districts are considered, the distance sick persons are removed from the comforts, and even the necessaries, which sickness demands, the full meaning of the low rate, both for adults and for children, will best be understood. No more potent argument could be advanced as to the natural salubrity of the Colony than the statement of the death-rates as recorded outside the walls of the metropolis.

All satisfaction, however, in regard to the low death-rate is confined to the country districts. So far as Sydney and its suburbs are concerned, there is no cause for congratulation; on the contrary, the rate at which children of tender years drop into the grave forms a pathetic commentary on the civilisation of the Colony. Taking the whole period embraced in the table, the death-rate of children under 5 years was 56 per thousand in the metropolis. The following quinquennial table has been

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compiled in order to illustrate the gradual change which has occurred since 1871:—

Quinquennial period.	Metropolis.	Country Districts.	New South Wales.
	All ages.		
1871–75	20·91	12·77	14·99
1876–80	21·46	13·96	16·10
1881–85	20·77	13·46	15·70
1886–90	17·94	11·82	13·80
1891–94	14·88	11·97	12·97
	Over 5 years.		
1871–75	12·72	9·25	10·21
1876–80	12·82	9·86	10·73
1881–85	12·56	9·50	11·40
1886–90	10·93	8·49	9·27
1891–94	9·59	8·67	8·99
	Under 5 years.		
1871–75	66·28	30·55	39·78
1876–80	77·45	35·80	46·36
1881–85	73·35	35·99	46·63
1886–90	58·12	31·68	40·04
1891–94	46·53	30·74	35·98

A remarkable improvement may be noticed in the death-rate of the metropolis, both for ages over and under 5 years. In the country, during the second quinquennial period, the rate showed an increase, particularly amongst infant lives; but the third period is marked by a slight recovery, which, however, is quite eclipsed by the striking decline in the death-rates of 1886–90. The following tables show the mortality in the metropolitan and country districts during ten years; the figures of previous years will be found in earlier editions of this work. In the first will be found the actual number of deaths, and in the second the proportion of deaths of children under five years and of persons over that age, as compared with the whole population:—

Year.	Children under 5 years.			Persons over 5 years.		
	Metropolis.	Country.	N.S.W.	Metropolis.	Country.	N.S.W.
1885	3,134	3,478	6,612	3,359	5,311	8,670
1886	3,069	3,225	6,294	3,200	5,093	8,293
1887	2,598	3,022	5,620	2,948	4,880	7,828
1888	3,035	3,172	6,207	3,223	4,978	8,201
1889	3,239	3,284	6,523	3,099	5,174	8,273
1890	2,498	3,278	5,776	3,093	5,349	8,442
1891	2,821	3,689	6,510	3,599	6,177	9,776
1892	2,446	3,381	5,827	3,066	5,517	8,583
1893	3,157	3,915	7,072	3,327	5,623	8,950
1894	2,448	3,465	5,913	3,440	5,817	9,257

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Year.	Children under 5 years.			Persons over 5 years.		
	Metropolis.	Country.	N.S.W.	Metropolis.	Country.	N.S.W.
1885	77·11	37·84	49·86	13·74	9·65	10·91
1886	70·09	34·03	45·42	12·00	8·87	9·98
1887	54·94	30·82	38·66	10·95	8·27	9·11
1888	60·19	31·33	40·92	11·38	8·28	9·28
1889	61·74	31·56	41·68	10·36	8·47	9·09
1890	45·85	30·83	35·92	9·79	8·55	8·97
1891	50·89	33·21	39·10	10·77	9·61	10·00
1892	41·20	29·74	33·69	8·86	8·33	8·51
1893	52·58	33·07	39·64	9·34	8·32	8·67
1894	40·74	28·31	32·40	9·50	8·40	8·77
Mean.....	56·22	30·85	38·85	10·49	8·71	9·30

The following table gives the number of children under 1 year dying in the metropolis and country, and the proportion per thousand. This latter approximately represents the proportion of children born who died within a year :—

Year.	Metropolis.		Country Districts.		New South Wales.	
	Deaths under 1.	Per 1,000 births.	Deaths under 1.	Per 1,000 births.	Deaths under 1.	Per 1,000 births.
1875	1,074	176·9	1,621	98·4	2,695	119·6
1876	1,082	169·9	1,547	91·3	2,629	112·8
1877	1,038	156·2	1,747	101·5	2,785	116·7
1878	1,241	173·4	1,885	103·7	3,126	123·4
1879	1,206	153·4	1,680	86·0	2,886	107·1
1880	1,606	192·2	1,594	80·4	3,200	113·6
1881	1,444	162·0	1,897	94·4	3,341	115·2
1882	1,765	183·3	2,132	106·2	3,897	131·2
1883	1,680	163·2	1,910	90·9	3,590	114·7
1884	2,041	171·9	2,244	101·6	4,285	126·2
1885	2,292	186·8	2,304	101·1	4,596	131·1
1886	2,275	173·3	2,360	101·9	4,635	127·7
1887	1,890	140·8	2,055	86·3	3,945	105·9
1888	2,084	152·0	2,187	88·1	4,271	110·9
1889	2,301	172·4	2,371	99·0	4,672	125·3
1890	1,823	155·4	2,249	88·4	4,071	104·5
1891	2,075	148·1	2,616	102·8	4,691	118·9
1892	1,832	130·2	2,413	92·9	4,245	106·0
1893	2,048	146·7	2,592	98·2	4,640	115·0
1894	1,765	132·0	2,483	97·0	4,248	109·1
Mean.....	.....	162·0	.....	95·6	.....	116·7

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A more precise classification of the ages of the 4,248 children under 1 year, who died in 1894, is shown in the following table :—

Ages.	Metropolis.	Country.	New South Wales.
Under 1 month	502	829	1,331
1 month	190	283	473
2 months	172	234	406
3 ,,	153	203	356
4 ,,	159	162	321
5 ,,	98	151	249
6 ,,	102	136	238
7 ,,	82	112	194
8 ,,	87	95	182
9 ,,	84	107	191
10 ,,	76	100	176
11 ,,	60	71	131
Total	1,765	2,483	4,248

The experience of the United Kingdom shows that infant mortality is always higher in large towns than in the country districts. The experience of this Colony is somewhat similar. But though the conditions of life in England are more favourable in the country districts than in the towns, the same is not necessarily the case here. In sparsely scattered communities, such as the country districts of this Colony mainly comprise, it is frequently impossible to obtain for children of tender years articles which in towns are considered, and rightly so, almost necessaries of life. Were it not, therefore, for the contagions which seem incidental to towns, the death-rate of children might naturally be expected to be, so far as this Colony is concerned, higher in the country than in the city. That such is not the case is evident from the foregoing table. Compared with those of the other colonies, and of England and France, the rates of New South Wales, nevertheless, seem very favourable, as will be seen on reference to the following table, which gives the mean annual rates calculated for a period of ten years :—

Country.	Deaths of children under 1 year per 1,000 births.	Country.	Deaths of children under 1 year per 1,000 births.
New South Wales	115·44	Western Australia	122·12
Sydney and suburbs	153·77	Tasmania	104·63
Country districts	95·57	New Zealand	87·24
Victoria	127·58	England and Wales	141·60
Melbourne and suburbs	170·75	London	151·60
Country districts	100·98	Scotland	117·44
Queensland	128·30	France	166·00
South Australia	116·52		

The general salubrity of the Colony may be taken as well established, and if the deaths in Sydney and suburbs, especially amongst young

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children, were not relatively more numerous than those in the rest of the Colony, New South Wales would have no need to fear comparison with any country.

The comparatively high death-rates of Sydney certainly do not arise from natural causes. Seated on the hilly shores of Port Jackson, its situation is all that could be desired, and the configuration of the ground on which it stands is especially adapted to the requirements of a perfect drainage system. What Nature with lavish hand had bestowed, was, however, until recently, in danger of being destroyed or polluted; for looking through the causes of death the conclusion is inevitable that no small part of the mortality of Sydney and its suburbs arose, primarily or indirectly, from diseases which sanitary precautions might have averted.

With the exception of Hobart and Wellington, there is not much difference in the mean annual death-rates of the capitals of the Australasian Colonies. The rates for a single year, however, do not present such uniformity, as will be seen by the following figures for 1894:—Perth, 21·76; Hobart, 18·53; Melbourne, 15·53; Sydney, 14·12; Adelaide, 13·84; Brisbane, 12·47; and Wellington, 11·43. Of course the suburbs of the various cities are included in these calculations. Compared with cities in other parts of the world, the result is generally favourable to Australasia. The following table shows the mean death-rate of the chief Australasian, European, and American cities:—

Australasia.

	Annual Death-rate.		Annual Death-rate.
Hobart	23·43	Sydney	19·40
Perth	20·72	Brisbane	17·17
Adelaide	20·05	Wellington	14·20
Melbourne	19·96		

United Kingdom.

Dublin	27·1	Sheffield	21·6
Liverpool	26·7	London	21·1
Cork	26·1	Edinburgh	20·2
Manchester	25·5	Birmingham	19·8
Glasgow	25·3	Portsmouth	19·7
Plymouth	22·3	Bristol	19·6
Newcastle	21·8	Brighton	19·0

Continental Europe.

St. Petersburg	51·4	Leipsic	26·1
Madrid	37·4	Stockholm	24·7
Buda-Pesth	35·2	Hamburg	24·5
Munich	32·8	Brussels	23·9
Breslau	32·5	Amsterdam	23·7
Prague	32·3	Rotterdam	23·3
Milan	30·6	Venice	22·7
Vienna	29·0	The Hague	22·4
Paris	28·6	Copenhagen	22·1
Berlin	27·6	Geneva	21·2
Rome	26·8	Christiania	18·8
Cologne	26·2		

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America.

Montreal	37·2	Toronto	21·5
New York	26·2	Baltimore	21·1
Brooklyn	25·6	Philadelphia	20·3
Boston	23·5	St. Louis	19·3
New Orleans	22·7	San Francisco	18·1

This list is fairly representative, and largely as the rate for Sydney is swollen by the deaths of children of tender years, whose lives are often needlessly sacrificed, the comparison is satisfactory.

The following table shows the numbers of deaths at all ages during the year 1894:—

Age Groups.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 3 months	1,243	967	2,210
3 months and under 6	468	458	926
6 ,, ,, 12	604	508	1,112
1 year	472	424	896
2 years	185	154	339
3 ,,	111	130	241
4 ,,	98	91	189
5 years and under 10	235	264	499
10 ,, ,, 15	143	133	276
15 ,, ,, 20	148	148	296
20 years	43	35	78
21 years and under 25	202	218	420
25 ,, ,, 30	282	272	554
30 ,, ,, 35	370	282	652
35 ,, ,, 40	394	280	674
40 ,, ,, 45	346	191	537
45 ,, ,, 50	349	197	546
50 ,, ,, 55	418	182	600
55 ,, ,, 60	392	231	623
60 ,, ,, 65	544	272	816
65 ,, ,, 70	449	219	668
70 ,, ,, 75	389	229	618
75 ,, ,, 80	381	269	650
80 ,, ,, 85	287	177	464
85 ,, ,, 90	105	84	189
90 ,, ,, 95	36	30	66
95 ,, ,, 100	11	8	19
100 years and upwards	4	3	7
Not stated	5	.....	5
Total	8,714	6,456	15,170

The number of persons of the age of 70 years and upwards who died during the year was 2,013, and of these 1,213 were males and 800 females. There were 1,268 between the ages of 70 and 80 years; 653 between 80 and 90 years; 85 between 90 and 100 years; and 7 centenarians. Two males, aged 100, died at Eden and Grafton; and two, aged 102,

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at Orange and Gundagai respectively. One female, aged 100, died at Alexandria, a suburb of Sydney; one, aged 104, at Tumut; and one, aged 105, at Taree.

The next table gives the average age at death of all persons dying in the Colony during the last ten years, together with the average age of those who were over 5 years of age:—

Year.	Males.		Females.	
	All Ages.	Over 5 years.	All Ages.	Over 5 years.
1885	29·12	47·49	22·56	42·78
1886	29·22	47·85	23·79	44·84
1887	29·33	46·95	24·31	44·53
1888	29·44	48·11	23·42	44·01
1889	29·32	48·33	23·07	44·83
1890	30·08	47·62	25·48	45·52
1891	31·50	49·58	27·08	45·90
1892	30·26	48·03	24·69	43·89
1893	28·62	49·01	23·98	45·10
1894	32·76	51·03	28·56	48·76
Mean of 10 years...	29·97	48·40	24·69	45·02

Causes of Death.

The system of classifying causes of death proposed by the late Dr. William Farr, F.R.S., in conjunction with Dr. Marc d'Espine, which was in vogue in the United Kingdom and the Colonies for over a quarter of a century, has within the last few years been abandoned in favour of one arranged by Dr. William Ogle, Dr. Farr's successor at the General Register Office, London, upon the basis of a mode of classification determined upon by a joint committee appointed by the Royal College of Physicians, London; and whilst this latter includes a few important deviations from the former, the changes on the whole are in the direction of more extensive exemplification, so that the admirable system of Dr. Farr still forms the groundwork of the new classification.

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The number of deaths from each cause during the year 1894 is here given, together with the proportion which each class bears to the total. For purposes of comparison, the causes of death from 1887 to 1894, arranged in classes according to the new system, will be found in the table immediately following the death-roll for 1894 :—

Class.	Causes of Death.	Under 5 Years.		Over 5 Years.		Total.	Proportion per cent.
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.		
I.	Specific febrile or zymotic diseases	699	692	600	631	2,622	17·28
II.	Parasitic diseases	14	16	25	19	74	0·49
III.	Dietetic diseases	36	28	76	26	166	1·10
IV.	Constitutional diseases	168	114	1,114	739	2,135	14·08
V.	Developmental diseases	343	269	508	299	1,419	9·35
VI.	Local diseases	1,387	1,171	2,484	1,799	6,841	45·10
VII.	Violence	121	93	692	188	1,094	7·20
VIII.	Ill-defined and not specified causes	413	349	34	23	819	5·40
	All causes	3,181	2,732	5,533	3,724	15,170	100·00

Class I.—Specific Febrile or Zymotic Diseases.

Order 1. *Miasmatic Diseases.*—Small-pox, 1; chicken-pox, 1; measles, 142; epidemic rose-rash, 1; scarlet fever, 111; influenza, 454; whooping-cough, 225; mumps, 2; diphtheria, 355; cerebro-spinal fever, 1; simple continued fever, 9; typhoid, enteric fever, 329.

Order 2. *Diarrhœal Diseases.*—Cholera, cholera infantum, 73; diarrhœa, 613; dysentery, 57.

Order 3. *Malarial Diseases.*—Remittent fever, 1; intermittent fever, ague, 6; beri beri, 7.

Order 5. *Venereal Diseases.*—Syphilis (including congenital syphilis, 52), 64; stricture of urethra, 4.

Order 6. *Septic Diseases.*—Phagedæna, 1; erysipelas, 21; pyæmia, septicæmia, 34; puerperal fever, 110.

Class II.—Parasitic Diseases.

Thrush, 30; hydatid disease, 44.

Class III.—Dietetic Diseases.

Starvation, privation, 11; want of breast milk, 63; scurvy, 1; intemperance—(*a*) chronic alcoholism, 70; (*b*) delirium tremens, 17; (*c*) opium smoking, 2; surfeit (over eating), 2.

Class IV.—Constitutional Diseases.

Rheumatic fever, rheumatism of heart, 55; rheumatism, 24; gout, 18; rickets, 5; cancer, 516; tabes mesenterica, 121; tubercular meningitis (acute hydrocephalus), 142; phthisis, 1,042; other forms of tuberculosis, scrofula, 104; purpura, hæmorrhagic diathesis, 20; anæmia, chlorosis, leucocythæmia, 37; diabetes mellitus, 50; leprosy, 1.

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Class V.—Developmental Diseases.

Premature birth, 468; atelectasis, 45; cyanosis, 54; spina bifida, 14; imperforate anus, 5; cleft palate, harelip, 6; other congenital defects, 27; old age, 800.

Class VI.—Local Diseases.

Order 1. *Diseases of the Nervous System.*—Inflammation of the brain or its membranes, 223; apoplexy, 269; softening of the brain, 55; hemiplegia, brain paralysis, 158; paralysis agitans, 6; insanity, general paralysis of the insane, 59; chorea, 2; epilepsy, 82; convulsions, 570; laryngismus stridulus, 10; idiopathic tetanus, 23; paraplegia, diseases of the spinal cord, 69; others, congestion of brain, 27; and brain diseases (undefined), 39.

Order 2. *Diseases of the Organs of Special Sense.*—Otitis, otorrhœa, disease of the ear, 15; epistaxis, disease of the nose, 6; ophthalmia, disease of the eye, 4.

Order 3. *Diseases of the Circulatory System.*—Endocarditis, valvular disease, 227; pericarditis, 10; hypertrophy of heart, 12; angina pectoris, 22; syncope, 132; aneurism, 55; senile gangrene, 17; embolism, thrombosis, 15; phlebitis, 2; varicose veins, 3; heart disease (undefined), 440.

Order 4. *Diseases of the Respiratory System.*—Laryngitis, 31; croup, 109; other diseases of larynx and trachea, 18; asthma, emphysema, 98; bronchitis, 751; pneumonia, 662; congestion of the lungs, 107; pleurisy, 122; others, and lung disease (undefined), 57.

Order 5. *Diseases of the Digestive System.*—Stomatitis, 19; dentition, 50; sore throat, quinsy, 15; dyspepsia, 23; hæmatemesis, 13; melæna, 14; diseases of the stomach, 123; enteritis, 674; ulceration of intestines, 41; ileus, obstruction of intestine, 68; stricture or strangulation of intestine, 15; intussusception, 21; hernia, 32; fistula, 12; peritonitis, 123; ascites, 15; gallstones, 17; cirrhosis of liver, 76; hepatitis, 34; jaundice, 43; congestion of liver, 18; other diseases of liver, 54; other diseases of digestive system, 35.

Order 6. *Diseases of the Lymphatic System.*—Diseases of lymphatic system, 13; diseases of spleen, 4; bronchocele, 10; Addison's disease, 2.

Order 7. *Diseases of the Urinary System.*—Nephritis, 62; Bright's disease, 248; uræmia, 44; suppression of urine, 11; calculus, 12; hæmaturia, 6; diseases of bladder and of prostate, 74; others, and kidney disease (undefined), 19.

Order 8. *Diseases of the Organs of Generation.*—Ovarian disease, 17; diseases of uterus and vagina, 28; disorders of menstruation, 10; pelvic abscess, 4; perineal abscess, 1; diseases of testes, penis, scrotum, 8.

Order 9. *Diseases of Parturition.*—Abortion, miscarriage, 33; puerperal mania, 4; puerperal convulsions, 28; placenta prævia, flooding, 30; phlegmasia dolens, 1; other casualties of childbirth, 61.

Order 10. *Diseases of the Organs of Locomotion.*—Caries, necrosis, 9; arthritis, ostitis, periostitis, 7; hip-joint disease, curvature of spine, 6.

Order 11. *Diseases of the Integumentary System.*—Carbuncle, 11; phlegmon, cellulitis, 8; lupus, 4; ulcer, bed sores, 5; eczema, 11; pemphigus, 4; dermatitis and other diseases of integumentary system, 4.

Class VII.—Violence.

Order 1. *Accident or Negligence.*—Fractures or contusions, 348; gunshot wounds, 19; cuts (tetanus), 28; burns, scalds, 143; sunstroke, 15; lighting, 2; poison, 23; bite of snake or insect, 3; drowning, 206; suffocation, 38; otherwise, 39.

Order 2. *Homicide.*—Murder, 37; manslaughter, 12; justifiable homicide, 2.

Order 3. *Suicide.*—Gunshot wounds, 31; cut, stab, 18; poison, 36; drowning, 39; hanging, 22; otherwise, 5.

Order 4. *Execution.*—Hanging, 5.

Order 5. *Violent Deaths not classed.*—Found drowned, 23.

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Class VIII.—Ill-defined and not Specified Causes.

Dropsy, 33; atrophy, debility, inanition, 755; tumour, 4; abscess, 4; other ill-defined and not specified causes, 23.

Males, 8,714; Females, 6,456. Total, 15,170.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the number of deaths from phthisis in the Colony during 1894 was greater than that from any other disease. The mortality from this cause was, however, lower than the average rate of the preceding ten years, the expected number of deaths being 1,217, as against an actual experience of 1,042. The fatal cases of cancer were, on the contrary, 39 per cent. above the average of the preceding decade, but the rate in New South Wales during the period 1885–94 was only 0·384 per thousand of population as compared with 0·652 in England and Wales.

The following are the principal causes of death, arranged in order of fatality:—

	Number of deaths.		Number of deaths.
Phthisis	1,042	Scarlet fever	111
Accidents	864	Croup	109
Old age	800	Congestion of the lungs	107
Atrophy, debility (infants)	755	Tuberculosis, scrofula	104
Bronchitis	751	Asthma	98
Enteritis	674	Intemperance	89
Heart disease (exclusive of endocarditis, pericarditis, and aneurism)	643	Epilepsy	82
Diarrhœa	613	Cholera	73
Convulsions	570	Diseases of spinal cord	69
Cancer	516	Ileus, obstruction of the intestines	68
Premature birth	468	Syphilis	64
Influenza	454	Want of breast milk	63
Diphtheria	355	Insanity	59
Typhoid, enteric fever	329	Dysentery	57
Apoplexy	269	Lung disease (undefined)	57
Childbirth and puerperal fever	267	Softening of the brain	55
Bright's disease	248	Aneurism	55
Liver diseases	242	Rheumatic fever and rheumatism of heart	55
Endocarditis and pericarditis	237	Diabetes mellitus	50
Diseases of the urinary system (exclusive of Bright's disease)	228	Murder and manslaughter	49
Whooping-cough	225	Hydatid disease	44
Inflammation of the brain	223	Ulceration of the intestines	41
Paralysis	158	Anæmia, chlorosis, leucocythæmia	37
Suicides	151	Pyæmia, septicæmia	34
Tubercular meningitis (hydrocephalus)	142	Dropsy	33
Peritonitis	123	Laryngitis	31
Pleurisy	122	Thrush	30
Tabes mesenterica	121	Rheumatism	24
		Found drowned	23
		Erysipelas	21
		Privation	11

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The following table shows the percentage of deaths from each class of disease to total deaths, and the rate of mortality per thousand persons living in New South Wales from the several classes of disease :—

Causes of Death.	1887.			1888.			1889.			1890.		
	Deaths.	Percentage.	Per 1,000 living.	Deaths.	Percentage.	Per 1,000 living.	Deaths.	Percentage.	Per 1,000 living.	Deaths.	Percentage.	Per 1,000 living.
Specific febrile, or zymotic diseases.	1,978	14·71	1·97	2,143	14·87	2·07	2,497	16·88	2·34	2,022	14·22	1·84
Parasitic diseases..	61	0·45	0·06	53	0·37	0·05	68	0·46	0·06	71	0·50	0·06
Dietetic diseases ..	179	1·33	0·17	183	1·27	0·18	289	1·95	0·27	235	1·65	0·21
Constitutional diseases	1,896	14·10	1·89	2,111	14·65	2·04	2,018	13·64	1·89	1,988	13·98	1·80
Developmental diseases	1,128	8·39	1·12	1,195	8·30	1·15	1,277	8·63	1·20	1,322	9·30	1·20
Local diseases	6,110	45·43	6·08	6,543	45·41	6·32	6,615	44·71	6·20	6,587	46·33	5·98
Violence	1,148	8·54	1·14	1,140	7·91	1·07	1,110	7·50	1·04	1,163	8·18	1·06
Ill-defined and not specified causes..	948	7·05	0·94	1,040	7·22	1·00	922	6·23	0·86	830	5·84	0·75
Total	13,448	100·00	13·37	14,408	100·00	13·88	14,796	100·00	13·86	14,218	100·00	12·90

Causes of Death.	1891.			1892.			1893.			1894.		
	Deaths.	Percentage.	Per 1,000 living.	Deaths.	Percentage.	Per 1,000 living.	Deaths.	Percentage.	Per 1,000 living.	Deaths.	Percentage.	Per 1,000 living.
Specific febrile, or zymotic diseases.	2,917	17·91	2·55	2,022	14·03	1·71	2,891	18·05	2·39	2,622	17·28	2·12
Parasitic diseases..	55	0·34	0·05	66	0·46	0·06	87	0·54	0·07	74	0·49	0·06
Dietetic diseases ..	212	1·30	0·19	204	1·42	0·17	132	0·82	0·11	166	1·10	0·13
Constitutional diseases	2,141	13·15	1·87	2,064	14·32	1·75	2,143	13·38	1·77	2,135	14·08	1·73
Developmental diseases	1,489	9·14	1·30	1,347	9·35	1·14	1,449	9·04	1·20	1,419	9·35	1·15
Local diseases	7,301	44·83	6·38	6,527	45·29	5·52	7,203	44·96	5·95	6,841	45·10	5·53
Violence	1,165	7·15	1·02	1,153	8·00	0·98	1,133	7·07	0·94	1,094	7·20	0·88
Ill-defined and not specified causes..	1,006	6·18	0·88	1,027	7·13	0·87	984	6·14	0·81	819	5·40	0·66
Total	16,286	100·00	14·24	14,410	100·00	12·20	16,022	100·00	13·24	15,170	100·00	12·26

Deaths from Cancer.

The diseases which deserve special mention, although they are not exactly the three which claim most victims in the course of the year, are cancer, phthisis, and heart disease. During the year 1894 there were 516 fatal cases of cancer, as compared with 489 in the preceding year.

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For a number of years deaths from cancer have been more numerous among males than among females; thus in 1893 there were 250 male and 239 female deaths, and in 1894, 308 male and 208 female deaths. The ages of the 516 persons who died in 1894 ranged from 10 to 91 years. Of the total number, 117 were born in Australasia. Of the remainder, 316 had been resident in the Colonies for 20 years or more; 15, between 15 and 20 years; 28, between 10 and 15 years; 18, between 5 and 10 years; 2, for 4 years; 4, for 2 years; 1, for 1 year; while of 15 the period of residence was unknown.

It would seem that cases of cancer are increasing in New South Wales much faster than might be expected from the actual increase in population. All fatal cases have been recorded since 1856, and during the interval the proportion per thousand of the population has practically trebled; for the five years, 1856–60, the proportion was 0·14 per thousand, while in 1891–94 it was 0·43 per thousand. Possibly the more skilful diagnosis of late years, especially of internal cancer, may account for part of the increase; but when every allowance has been made on this score, it will be found that the spread of cancer is a dread reality, demanding very serious attention. The following table shows the deaths since 1856, with the proportion per thousand of population:—

Year.	Deaths.	Per 1,000 of Population.	Year.	Deaths.	Per 1,000 of Population.	Year.	Deaths.	Per 1,000 of Population.
1856	32	0·14	1869	119	0·25	1882	215	0·27
1857	38	0·13	1870	113	0·23	1883	215	0·26
1858	37	0·11	1871	127	0·25	1884	233	0·26
1859	48	0·14	1872	149	0·28	1885	267	0·29
1860	60	0·18	1873	159	0·29	1886	333	0·34
1861	68	0·19	1874	156	0·28	1887	354	0·35
1862	73	0·20	1875	181	0·31	1888	404	0·39
1863	76	0·20	1876	166	0·27	1889	393	0·37
1864	83	0·22	1877	167	0·27	1890	392	0·35
1865	88	0·22	1878	191	0·29	1891	516	0·45
1866	105	0·25	1879	171	0·25	1892	510	0·43
1867	112	0·26	1880	239	0·33	1893	489	0·40
1868	118	0·26	1881	216	0·28	1894	516	0·42

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Deaths from Phthisis.

The 1,043 deaths from phthisis which occurred during 1894 included 642 males and 401 females, whose ages are shown in the following table :—

Age Groups.	Deaths.	Age Groups.	Deaths.	Age Groups.	Deaths.
Under 1 year	2	16 years	6	45 years and under 50	89
1 year	5	17 ,,	8	50 ,, ,, 55	66
2 years	2	18 ,,	9	55 ,, ,, 60	59
4 ,,	1	19 ,,	11	60 ,, ,, 65	44
5 ,,	1	20 ,,	25	65 ,, ,, 70	25
6 ,,	4	21 ,,	24	70 ,, ,, 75	10
7 ,,	1	22 ,,	24	76 ,,	1
8 ,,	2	23 ,,	26	77 ,,	1
9 ,,	3	24 ,,	32	84 ,,	1
10 ,,	2	25 years and under 30	147		
13 ,,	4	30 ,, ,, 35	183	Total	1,042
14 ,,	2	35 ,, ,, 40	150		
15 ,,	7	40 ,, ,, 45	74		

The Australian climate is certainly favourable to persons suffering from pulmonary diseases, and a considerable number of persons suffering from phthisis visit Australia in search of relief. Many of these are in the last stages of the disease, and succumb after a short residence in the Colony. It may be said that 7 per cent. of the fatal cases of consumption are those of persons whose residence in Australia has not exceeded five years. The figures for the year 1894 show that out of the 1,042 persons who died from phthisis, 494 were natives of Australasia; and 205 were persons who had resided in the Colonies for 20 years and upwards; 60, for 15 years and under 20; 100, for 10 years and under 15; and 89, for 5 years and under 10; while 20 persons died of phthisis during the fifth year of their sojourn in the Colonies; 18 during the fourth year; 13 during the third year; 10 during the second year; and 10 during the first year. Of the remaining 23 persons the period of residence was unknown.

Deaths from Heart Disease.

Deaths from heart disease numbered 935 during the year 1894, viz.:—578 males and 357 females. Their ages are shown below :—

Age Groups.	Deaths.	Age Groups.	Deaths.	Age Groups.	Deaths.
Under 1 year	16	16 years	3	50 years and under 55	93
1 year	4	17 ,,	2	55 ,, ,, 60	87
2 years	1	18 ,,	2	60 ,, ,, 65	133
3 ,,	1	19 ,,	4	65 ,, ,, 70	98
5 ,,	2	20 ,,	1	70 ,, ,, 75	86
6 ,,	4	21 ,,	4	75 ,, ,, 80	62
7 ,,	1	22 ,,	8	80 ,, ,, 85	27
8 ,,	3	23 ,,	8	85 ,, ,, 90	6
9 ,,	5	24 ,,	3	90 ,,	1
10 ,,	3	25 years and under 30	34	93 ,,	1
11 ,,	1	30 ,, ,, 35	47	Not stated	1
12 ,,	3	35 ,, ,, 40	53		
13 ,,	2	40 ,, ,, 45	50	Total	935
14 ,,	6	45 ,, ,, 50	69		

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The number of new arrivals among the 935 persons enumerated in the preceding table was small. One person died during the first year of residence in Australasia; 2 during the second year; 5 during the third year; 4 during the fourth year; and 6 during the fifth year; 41 persons had been residing in the colonies from 5 to 10 years; 58 from 10 to 15 years; 38 from 15 to 20 years; and 469 persons 20 years and upwards. Of 47 persons the length of residence was not known, and 264 were natives of Australasia.

Diseases of Nervous System.

A good deal is heard from time to time of the unhappy effects which our increasing civilisation has upon the health of the community, and of the large increase of diseases of the nerves and brain. The statistics of deaths show quite the contrary. Apoplexy, epilepsy, and other diseases of the nervous system do not now show so many fatal cases as formerly in proportion to the population, as will be readily seen from the following table, which covers the whole period during which registration has been in force :—

Year.	Deaths.	Per 1,000 of population.	Year.	Deaths.	Per 1,000 of population.	Year.	Deaths.	Pe 1,000 of population.
1856	489	2·08	1869	943	2·00	1882	1,644	2·06
1857	792	2·67	1870	947	1·93	1883	1,594	1·90
1858	930	2·87	1871	984	1·94	1884	1,803	2·04
1859	868	2·56	1872	1,145	2·17	1885	1,940	2·09
1860	884	2·58	1873	1,180	2·17	1886	1,800	1·86
1861	736	2·08	1874	1,265	2·24	1887	1,675	1·67
1862	916	2·53	1875	1,307	2·24	1888	1,692	1·63
1863	866	2·33	1876	1,293	2·14	1889	1,671	1·57
1864	855	2·22	1877	1,245	1·98	1890	1,594	1·45
1865	822	2·05	1878	1,427	2·17	1891	1,691	1·48
1866	905	2·16	1879	1,380	2·00	1892	1,580	1·34
1867	1,025	2·35	1880	1,499	2·06	1893	1,836	1·52
1868	1,023	2·25	1881	1,541	2·01	1894	1,592	1·29

Accidents.

Accidental deaths are very numerous, especially in the country. The number registered during 1894 was 864, or 226 in the metropolis and 638 in the country districts. The numbers for 1893 were 212 and 659 respectively. A slight increase is, therefore, apparent in the metropolis, and a corresponding decrease in the country districts. The number of

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fatal accidents in the Colony during each of the years 1888 to 1894 inclusive was as follows:—

	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Sydney and suburbs.....	272	247	214	258	215	212	226
Country	628	658	758	685	726	659	638
Total	900	905	972	943	941	871	864

In the following table a more detailed account will be found of the various fatal accidents during the last ten years :—

Year.	Fractures, Contusions.	Gunshot Wounds.	Cuts, etc.	Burns, Scalds.	Sunstroke.	Lightning.	Poison.	Bite of Snake or Insect.	Drowning.	Suffocation.	Otherwise.	All cases.		
												M.	F.	Total.
1885	448	13	23	121	34	*	41	3	222	42	10	755	202	957
1886	357	23	14	114	37	3	12	5	210	60	27	670	192	862
1887	352	11	18	93	24	2	16	3	228	129	27	727	176	903
1888	396	28	22	133	37	5	15	5	176	42	41	713	187	900
1889	417	15	13	101	29	7	24	4	204	54	37	713	192	905
1890	394	16	9	103	17	6	21	10	319	37	40	770	202	972
1891	406	15	11	119	13	4	26	5	251	52	41	780	163	943
1892	405	31	18	103	25	2	20	4	254	44	35	734	207	941
1893	334	23	17	123	14	1	34	8	232	42	43	669	202	871
1894	348	19	28	143	15	2	23	3	206	38	39	646	218	864
Total...	3,857	194	173	1,153	245	32	232	50	2,302	540	340	7,177	1,941	9,118

* Included with "Sunstroke" during this year.

The average annual rate of accidents during the ten years 1885 to 1894 has been 84 per 100,000 of the population. This, although much lower than in Queensland, is higher than in the other colonies, or in any country whose records are available for comparison, as will be seen from the following statement :—

New South Wales	84	Italy	15
Victoria	83	Germany	42
Queensland	141	Prussia	41
South Australia	63	Austria	31
Tasmania	69	Hungary	34
New Zealand	84	Belgium	39
England and Wales	56	Norway	64
Scotland	68	Sweden	51
Ireland	35	Russia	46
France	34	United States	62
Spain	21	Denmark	23
Switzerland	69		

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Suicides.

The number of suicides registered during the ten years 1885-94, and the various modes adopted for the taking of life, were as follow:—

Year.	Shooting.		Cut, Stab, etc.		Poison.		Drowning.		Hanging.		Other Modes.		All cases.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total
1885	19	1	18	...	13	5	1	3	26	5	4	...	81	14	95
1886	24	1	12	...	14	6	3	3	23	3	6	...	82	13	95
1887	22	...	14	1	17	11	14	7	26	4	4	1	97	24	121
1888	29	...	18	5	26	19	7	4	16	1	6	1	102	30	132
1889	25	...	20	4	18	10	8	5	15	3	3	1	89	23	112
1890	19	1	16	2	16	12	14	5	25	2	4	2	94	24	118
1891	36	1	14	2	16	10	3	2	29	4	2	...	100	19	119
1892	37	...	17	1	20	11	8	4	20	1	6	2	108	19	127
1893	42	...	18	2	28	8	22	8	15	6	3	1	128	25	153
1894	29	2	15	3	22	14	23	16	17	5	5	...	111	40	151
Total	282	6	162	20	190	106	103	57	212	34	43	8	992	231	1223

Suicide by hanging formerly claimed the largest number of male victims; but for the ten years ended 1894 there were 282 suicides of males by shooting, as against 212 by hanging. Death by poisoning was most favoured by women, there having been 106 cases during the decade, while 57 females put an end to themselves by drowning.

The following table shows the number of suicides, and the proportion to total deaths, for the last ten years:—

Year.	Suicides by males.		Suicides by females.		Total Suicides.	
	No.	Per thousand of total deaths of males.	No.	Per thousand of total deaths of females.	No.	Per thousand deaths.
1885	81	9·10	14	2·19	95	6·22
1886	82	9·64	13	2·13	95	6·51
1887	97	12·47	24	4·23	121	9·00
1888	102	12·07	30	5·04	132	9·16
1889	89	10·24	23	3·74	112	7·55
1890	94	11·35	24	4·04	118	8·30
1891	100	10·46	19	2·82	119	7·31
1892	108	12·64	19	3·24	127	8·81
1893	128	13·78	25	3·71	153	9·55
1894	111	12·74	40	6·20	151	9·95

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The following table shows the average annual proportion of suicides, at different age-groups of males and females, per million of population, for the twenty-four years 1871–94 :—

Age Groups.	Average of 10 years, 1871-80.		Average of 10 years, 1881-90.		Average of 4 years, 1891-94.		Average of 24 years, 1871-94.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
10 years and under 15 ...	3	...	4	2	7	3	4	2
15 ,, ,, 20 ...	14	14	28	43	27	65	23	43
20 ,, ,, 25 ...	39	44	100	43	132	75	91	51
25 ,, ,, 30 ...	85	36	186	53	155	65	149	50
30 ,, ,, 35 ...	177	60	218	66	219	97	204	72
35 ,, ,, 40 ...	258	63	233	60	283	78	252	65
40 ,, ,, 45 ...	287	105	284	101	365	21	304	83
45 ,, ,, 50 ...	367	87	335	79	362	64	354	77
50 ,, ,, 55 ..	368	89	489	136	485	64	449	104
55 ,, ,, 60 ...	356	79	449	108	499	109	426	100
60 ,, ,, 65 ...	541	182	418	90	547	125	487	126
65 ,, ,, 70 ...	624	85	576	99	720	47	620	94
70 ,, and upwards ...	384	36	483	114	854	173	483	74
All ages	122·7	30·9	152·6	38·2	170·9	44·3	148	37

These figures show that suicide is steadily increasing both amongst males and females, and that the disposition to self-destruction increases with each year of life. The rate for females is only one-fourth of that for males, and this average has been maintained in a singular manner throughout the whole period over which observation extends. At no period of life, except for the five years 15 to 19, are females more prone to suicide than males, nor does age develop the tendency amongst them to the same extent.

Experience shows that conduct is largely influenced by the seasons. As regards suicides, this is most plainly seen amongst males, who are more prone to attempt self-destruction in the first and last quarters of the year than in the intervening period. January, February, and December, the three hottest months of the year, have the largest record of suicides. For the decade ended with 1894 the proportion of male suicides during the four quarters of the year was as follows :—

First quarter	25·87 per cent.
Second quarter	21·23 ,,
Third quarter	23·23 ,,
Fourth quarter	29·67 ,,

Female suicides classified by quarters for the same period show the highest proportion during the fourth quarter, as do the males; but

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contrary to expectation, the proportion of the first quarter is the lowest of the year, the figures being as follow :—

First quarter	20·89 per cent.
Second quarter	25·24 ,,
Third quarter	25·72 ,,
Fourth quarter	28·15 ,,

The mean rate of the whole of Australasia for the ten years ended 1894 was 11·0, which is slightly higher than in New South Wales. In respect to suicide, however, all the Colonies, Tasmania alone excepted, compare somewhat unfavourably with Great Britain, deaths by suicide averaging 7·0 per 100,000 of population in England and Wales, and 5·6 in Scotland. The following figures show the rate of deaths from suicide in the Australasian Colonies :—

Colony.	Per 100,000 of mean population.
Tasmania	6·9
South Australia	9·4
New Zealand	9·4
New South Wales	10·6
Victoria	11·5
Queensland	16·1
Western Australia	16·7

Standard Population and Coefficient of Mortality.

The International Statistical Institute, in its 1895 session, held at Berne, decided to recommend the adoption of the population of Sweden, in five age-groups, as ascertained at the Census of 1890, as the standard population by which the coefficient of mortality should be calculated. In compliance with this recommendation, the coefficient of mortality for New South Wales has been calculated for each of the ten years 1885–94. The figures for 1894 are as follow :—

Age Groups.	Number living at the middle of year.	Deaths.	Coefficient per cent.	Percentage of the Population of Sweden: Standard Population.	New South Wales—Index per thousand.
Under 1 year	38,124	4,248	11·14	2·55	2·84
1 and under 20	555,597	2,736	0·49	39·80	1·95
20 and under 40	410,573	2,379	0·58	26·96	1·56
40 and under 60	179,672	2,307	1·28	19·23	2·46
60 and upwards	53,444	3,500	6·55	11·46	7·51
Total	1,237,410	15,170	1·23	100·00	16·32

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The coefficient of mortality for each of the ten years ended with 1894, together with the death-rate as calculated without regard to age-groups, was as follows :—

Year.	Coefficient of Mortality.	Death-rate.
	per thousand.	per thousand.
1885	20·22	16·48
1886	18·58	15·05
1887	16·65	13·38
1888	17·26	13·91
1889	17·22	13·87
1890	16·51	12·90
1891	18·68	14·24
1892	15·65	12·20
1893	16·71	13·24
1894	16·32	12·30

Comparisons with other countries cannot be made at present, as no particulars have so far been received.

Burials.

Cemeteries in New South Wales are in some instances church property; in other instances they belong to municipal corporations; and in other cases again they are Government property administered by trustees, partly appointed and partly elected. A few cemeteries in outlying parts of the Colony are in the hands of private owners. In the metropolitan area the first three kinds of ownership are all represented. The necropolis at Rookwood and the cemetery at Sutherland are Government property managed by trustees; while amongst a number of others, the Waverley and Long Bay cemeteries belong to the Waverley and Randwick municipalities respectively; and the Gore Hill, Watson's Bay, St. Peters, Petersham, and Randwick cemeteries are church property. Burial fees at Rookwood range from 12s. 6d. to £1 10s., and at Waverley from £1 17s. 6d. to £2 7s. 6d., for the great majority of funerals; in exceptional cases, however, they may, according to situation and area required, amount to £10 10s. or more. The average price of funerals in the metropolitan area may be stated to be as follows :—For coffin and hearse, first class, £10; second class, £7; third class, £4; and for coaches, from £1 5s. to £1 10s. each, according to distance to be travelled; total cost—first class, £15; second class, £10 10s.; third class, £7 10s. It is impossible to establish any average for country funerals; for while in some of the larger country towns undertakers are to be found, in the majority of country places actual funeral expenses need hardly be incurred except in the shape of burial fees.

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Sickness and Infirmity.

Closely allied to the consideration of the rate of mortality is that of the rate of sickness; but it must be borne in mind that the latter is by no means directly proportioned to the former. At different periods of life mankind is exposed to different classes of disease, some virulent and of brief duration, others protracted in duration yet less fatal in their effects. Within a few months after their entrance into the world the majority of the infants prematurely born or of weak or imperfect organisation are removed by death, and others succumb to such causes as "overlaying," improper feeding — commonly termed "want of breast milk"—and "infanticide." During the next few years of life children are especially subject to such diseases as convulsions (symptomatic of undeveloped causes of sickness), measles, whooping-cough, scarlet fever, and diphtheria, from which the survivors generally enjoy an immunity during the remainder of their life. Later on in the progress of years, during a period ranging from puberty to the change of life, many become victims to consumption, often after a wearisome and lingering resistance; while after entering into active life they are exposed to the risk of accidents, more or less imminent according to the occupation adopted, and resulting it may be in immediate death or in a more or less permanent sickness or disablement; and during this period the females, if not, as a rule, so exposed to external dangers, suffer frequent loss from the risks of childbirth. During the later portion of this period and the years succeeding it, many are removed by diseases from some of which they may have been secretly or unwittingly suffering for years; and the deaths from heart disease, liver diseases, and cancer are very numerous, the last-named becoming more widespread in New South Wales and more prevalent among men than among women. And last of all comes that oft-time protracted "chronic illness" generally termed "old age," when people are for the most part unable to work for the means of subsistence, and are therefore dependent on the provision they have made in the past or on the good will of others. Although in a medical sense sickness may only be used to denote that state of the body which requires the administration of medicine or the attendance and services of a medical practitioner, yet in the ordinary acceptation of the term it is employed to denote inability to follow one's usual occupation in life from whatever cause it may arise. Thus a sore thumb might be "sickness" in the case of a compositor or a bricklayer, but not in the case of his foreman or employer.

In accordance with the decision of the Conference of Statisticians, an inquiry was inserted in the Census schedule with the intention of eliciting information as to the number of persons suffering from sickness or infirmity. It was not expected that the inquiry would be on all points successful; indeed, it was recognised that the term sickness is itself vague; but it is probable that the inquiry was understood to refer

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to inability to follow ordinary occupations, or, where there was no occupation, then bed-fast sickness was understood. Judging from the information gathered from other sources it is believed that the particulars obtained were substantially accurate, except perhaps in regard to epilepsy and idiocy. In the case of persons suffering from the neuroses last mentioned, it is quite possible that there was some reluctance on the part of those filling up the schedule, especially where the persons concerned were their offspring, to record either infirmity except when its presence was too plain to be overlooked.

Assuming the results of the Census of 1891 to be indicative of the general condition of the population of the Colony, and excluding the aborigines, it would appear that something like 2 per cent. of the people constantly suffer from some form of infirmity arising either from disease or from disablement of a more or less permanent character. The following table shows the number and the proportion per 1,000 suffering from each cause:—

Sickness or Infirmity.	Total number.			Per thousand.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
Total cases of Infirmity	13,926	8,325	22,251	23·11	16·14	19·88
Sickness—						
Paralysis	530	321	851	0·89	0·62	0·77
Epilepsy	209	130	339	0·35	0·25	0·31
Leprosy	15	.....	15	0·01	.....	0·00
Others and undefined	5,732	4,385	10,117	9·55	8·51	9·06
Total Sickness	6,486	4,836	11,322	10·80	9·38	10·14
Other Infirmities—						
Accident	1,248	211	1,459	2·09	0·41	1·31
Deaf and Dumb	210	173	383	0·35	0·34	0·34
Dumb only	3	6	9	0·01	0·01	0·01
Deaf only..	780	568	1,348	1·30	1·10	1·21
Blind..	416	325	741	0·69	0·63	0·66
Insane	1,926	1,203	3,129	3·12	2·33	2·75
Idiotic	164	122	286	0·27	0·24	0·25
Crippled	1,182	593	1,775	1·97	1·15	1·59
Lost a Limb	566	69	635	0·94	0·13	0·57
Lost Sight of an Eye.....	945	219	1,164	1·57	0·42	1·05

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A separate classification of the Chinese was made, but no specia. features were disclosed except that 9 out of the 15 lepers were of this nationality. There was also one Javanese leper. The number of Chinese insane was 73, a much larger figure than their proportion of the community warranted; but in this the Chinese were not singular, as several other nationalities had a like undue proportion.

By virtue of the Leprosy Act of 1890, the Board of Health is empowered to detain and isolate persons suffering from leprosy. In 1891 there were lepers in all the Colonies of Australasia except Tasmania, and in all the cases then known to the health authorities the afflicted were of the male sex. The number of lepers in each Colony, and the nationalities to which they belonged, were as set out in the appended table:—

Colony.	Nationality.							
	Europeans.	Australian Aboriginals.	Maoris.	South Sea Islanders.	Chinese.	Javanese.	Cingalese.	Total.
New South Wales.	5	...	...	...	9	1	...	15
Victoria	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	3
Queensland	2	1	...	3	3	...	1	10
South Australia...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	3
Western Australia	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
New Zealand	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	4
Total.....	8	1	4	3	18	1	1	36

On January 1st, 1895, there were 40 persons—35 males and 5 females—in the leper lazaret at Little Bay, New South Wales. The inmates were of the following nationalities:—New South Wales, 11; Queensland, 1; New Zealand, 1; England, 1; Germany, 1; India, 2; China, 19; Java, 1; Fiji, 1; New Caledonia, 1; Solomon Islands, 1. At the beginning of the year 1896 the number had been reduced to 37.

During the Census year there were 943 deaths due to accidents, 780 being of males and 163 of females. On the day of enumeration, 1,248 males and 211 females were recorded as suffering from accidents of such a nature as to require special attention.

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The blind numbered 416 males and 325 females, of whom 657 were adults and 84 under 21 years of age. Of these, 32 adults were employed or connected with the Industrial Blind Institution at Sydney, and 20 children were in other public institutions.

By crippled were understood such persons as through illness and accident had lost the complete or partial use of one or more limbs without being entirely deprived of the member itself. The term is none too happy, seeing that a majority of the persons afflicted were not disabled from following gainful occupations.

The deaf and dumb comprised 162 adults, and 221 children and others under 21 years; of these, 57 were inmates of the Deaf and Dumb Institution at Sydney. There were 780 males and 568 females returned as being deaf but not dumb. Deafness, as defined in the Census schedule, was intended to mean total infirmity; the inquiry, however, was possibly misunderstood by some, and cases of infirmity of hearing short of total deafness recorded, but the figures viewed in ages give no clue to what was really understood. There were 127 persons under 21 years returned as deaf, and 1,221 above that age. The persons returned as dumb but not deaf were only 9 in number, 3 of whom were males, and 6 females.

The epileptics whose infirmity was noted on the schedule were 209 males and 130 females. They probably comprised only those who were actually suffering on the day of the Census—the persons with an epileptic taint were doubtless much more numerous.

As already pointed out, there is reason to believe that the number of persons returned as idiotic understates the truth, seeing that only 116 under 21 and 172 over that age were so returned. Perhaps only the aggressively idiotic were recorded on the Census papers, for truly between the drivelling idiot and the confessedly sane there are many grades of idiocy not likely to be acknowledged as such.

Duration of Sickness.

No doubt accurate returns could be obtained from public institutions as to the duration after admission and the result of all cases which have undergone treatment in them, but they would not be correct enough for general use. Many of the cases of sickness might have existed for some time before the patient applied for relief, and, which is of still more importance, as a rule only those whose condition is deemed critical are conveyed to a hospital, whilst what is required to make the statistics of any public utility is that we should obtain the average duration of "sickness," that is, of inability to work at the usual trade or business at each period of life.

Up to the present time no statistics relating to the average duration of fatal sickness have been compiled, although in most cases valuable

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information might be obtained from the registration of deaths. So far, however, as relates to the duration of general sickness, some important material has been compiled by the Secretary to the Manchester Unity of the Independent Order of Oddfellows in New South Wales concerning the mortality and sickness among its members. From this information has been prepared the following table, in which a comparison is made between the experience of that extensive Order in England and in New South Wales with regard to the average sickness per annum to each person, the annual mortality per cent., and the number of days' sickness to each death, at various age groups :—

Age.	England.			New South Wales.		
	Weeks of Sickness per Member per annum.	Mortality per cent. per annum.	Days of Sickness to 1 Death.	Weeks of Sickness per Member per annum.	Mortality per cent. per annum.	Days of Sickness to 1 Death.
21–25	0·754	0·667	791	0·401	0·293	958
26–30	0·827	0·764	758	0·512	0·455	788
31–35	0·954	0·864	773	0·629	0·575	765
36–40	1·100	1·046	736	0·828	0·667	316
41–45	1·348	1·257	751	1·181	0·988	837
46–50	1·776	1·545	805	1·583	1·087	1,020
51–55	2·406	2·035	828	1·949	1·638	833
56–60	3·441	2·769	867	3·299	2·278	1,014
61–65	5·306	3·989	931	6·616	3·605	2,241
66–70	8·399	5·638	1,043	6·949	6·019	808
71–75	13·092	8·560	1,071	15·164	8·850	1,200
76–80	18·307	12·204	1,050	14·860	20·000	520

From the above it will be seen that both the mortality experience of the Colony, and the sickness, appear to be lower than in England; but the data for New South Wales in regard to sickness are not yet sufficient to enable any confident deduction to be drawn from the tabulated results.

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Expectation of Life.

It is a matter of very common remark that nothing is more uncertain than the length of life which an individual may enjoy, and nothing more certain than the duration of lives taken in the aggregate. A life-table professes to give the number of persons out of a given number—usually 100,000—who may be expected to survive at the end of each year, commencing with birth or year 0, until the last has been counted out. As a complement to this, it shows the number who may be expected to die in the course of a year, and the mean after-life-time of persons at each completed year of life. This last is what is usually called the expectation of life, and is so called in the life-tables which will be found annexed.

The data required for a life-table are the number of persons living, as ascertained by an exact enumeration of the people, and the number of deaths recorded at each year of age. Experience, however, shows that neither in the case of one set of facts nor in the other is absolute exactitude attainable; for, without regarding those who deliberately misstate their age at the time of the Census, there are always some, and by no means a few, who either do not know the year of their birth, or in the Census paper return themselves as at the nearest decennial age. Thus it is the universal experience of those who have compiled a population census to find that the number of persons at age 40, for example, largely exceeds that at 38, 39, 41, or 42, and similarly with 50 and other decennial ages. There is also a tendency, but not to so marked an extent, for persons near the quinquennial ages, if they may so be termed, viz., 35, 45, 55, etc., to return themselves as at these ages and not at their true age. The ages of persons dying are stated with more exactitude, although there is a tendency for the ages to group themselves round the decennial figures. It is necessary in a life-table to make allowance for the bias or personal equation which the statements of ages exhibit, otherwise the expectations of life when plotted to a scale would exhibit a series of angular points, instead of the rather graceful curves which a diagram if prepared would show. Dr. Farr, to whose labours the world owes the first English life-table, adopted a system of adjustment which effectually smoothed off the angular points to which allusion has been made; but it is now recognised that this smoothing process was too effectual, and the variations from uniformity at certain ages, arising from change of life, from the effects of climate and environment, or from emigration, are altogether lost. Since the compilation of the fourth or last English life-table by Dr. Ogle, the question of adjustment has been very fully discussed, and the method used by Mr. W. S. B. Woolhouse, in adjusting the graduation of the tables of mortality adopted by the Institute of Actuaries, has met with general approval; and it is the system of Woolhouse that has been used in calculating the mortality on which the following tables are based.

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The ages assumed were those ascertained at the Census taken on the 5th April, 1891, and the deaths those registered as occurring during the twelve months preceding and the twelve months following the day of the Census. The number of persons dealt with was 1,123,954, being the population of the Colony, less the aborigines; and the number of deaths in the two years, 30,504. It may be well to note at this stage that the death-rate of 1891 was very considerably augmented by the influenza epidemic, an abnormal proportion of deaths occurring amongst aged persons, especially females. This is a circumstance which should be taken into account in comparing life-tables hereafter compiled with the one now presented.

The necessity for exact data in calculating life contingencies brought into existence the first life-table; but there are uses to which it may be put that are entirely apart from the requirements of the actuary. If the progress of medicine, viewed as the art of prolonging life, is to be measured, the only gauge which can be applied is the life-table; and it is held to be very positive evidence of the improved condition of the people that in the forty years that elapsed between the compilation of Dr. Farr's first table of the expectation of life and of that by Dr. Ogle, there was an improvement of 1½ years in the expectation at birth.

It is impossible to compare the expectation of life now ascertained for New South Wales with that of past years, as this is the first time that the expectation has been ascertained; but a few comparisons with Dr. Ogle's table for England may not be without interest. First, however, it may be well to allude to several material points which should be kept in view in dealing with the New South Wales table.

The population of the Colony is composed of two-thirds of native born and one-third of British or foreign parentage; and of the persons over 16 years of age, about one half belong to the latter category. The average length of time which the non-Australian-born have spent in the Colony cannot, of course, be determined; but it must be abundantly plain that there is a very large number of persons in New South Wales whose past life has been very little influenced by Australian conditions. Thus the mortality experience which the tables show is in reality of two kinds. The earlier ages are practically purely Australian, whilst the later ages are partly Australian and partly British and foreign, the latter element getting stronger as the ages advance. Therefore, though the expectation here given is correct as regards the population as at present constituted, it might not be so if the Australian-born element predominated as largely at every age as it does at the earlier periods. No attempt is made to differentiate the two elements of population, with a view of discovering whether it is true, as is sometimes assumed, that the conditions in Australia are favourable for early and middle life, but not for old age, or whether the

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very marked superiority of the Australian over the European death-rate for early ages is maintained throughout all the ages. The data by means of which such could be done are lacking. It may here be sufficient to say that there is evidence to show that the admixture of non-Australian-born has not improved the expectation of life at the ages where their presence is of importance.

An inspection of the following tables will show that the expectation of life, according to the New South Wales life-table, is greater for males for every year up to 84 than under the English life-table of Dr. Ogle. At birth (age 0 of the table), the difference in the expectation is 8¼ years, at 5 years of age, 4·03; at 10 years, 3·29 years; at 30, 2·2 years; and at 60 years, 0·46. For females up to 64 years much the same results are shown. Thus, at age 0 the New South Wales expectation exceeds the English by 8·28 years; at 5 years, by 4·34; at 10 years, by 3·63; at 30 years, by 2 years; and at 60, by 0·27 years. At the ages above 64 the expectation for females is higher according to the English table than in that of New South Wales. It must not be supposed, however, that this means that the superiority of the ages below 84 for males and 64 for females is lost after those years are attained. Such is not the case. It is true that, compared with the population, there are more deaths in New South Wales at the ages above those quoted than there are in England, but it is also true that a larger proportion is then surviving in New South Wales than in England. Thus out of 100,000 males born in New South Wales, 5,920 will survive until 84, whereas in England the number is only 3,813. Similarly, at age 90 the survivors in New South Wales would be 1,156, whereas in England they would number 802 only. The figures in regard to females show much the same proportions. Out of 100,000 females born in New South Wales, 48,725 would survive till 64, against 37,049 in England; 37,570 would live till 70 years of age, against 27,723 in England; at age 80 the numbers would be 13,657 and 10,894; and at age 90, 1,630 and 1,423 respectively.

If a comparison be made with what is known as the new English life table of Dr. Farr, it will be found that in each instance the expectation for females exceeds that for males, varying in the case of New South Wales from 3·3 at age 0 to 2·5 years at 10 years, the difference gradually becoming less and less as the ages increase, until the expectation becomes almost the same for each sex. Neither of the English life tables, as computed by Dr. Farr and Dr. Ogle, nor that computed by the author for New South Wales, shows that the expectation of life of women of the reproductive age, say 15 to 45 years, falls nearer to that of males than at other ages. Whatever may be the risks attendant on child-bearing, it seems they do not affect the death-rate of females more largely than accidents or other risks to which males are liable at the same ages. The following are the tables of the expectation of life for New South Wales:—

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Expectation of Life—Males.

Age.	Expectation of living a year.	Expectation of dying in a year.	Average duration of life.	Age.	Expectation of living a year.	Expectation of dying in a year.	Average duration of life.	Age.	Expectation of living a year.	Expectation of dying in a year.	Average duration of life.
0	·8722600	·1277400	49·60	31	·9928036	·0071964	33·54	61	·9650778	·0349222	13·02
1	·9719879	·0280121	55·78	32	·9926016	·0073984	32·77	62	·9617963	·0382037	12·47
2	·9873909	·0126091	56·37	33	·9922719	·0077281	32·02	63	·9581808	·0418192	11·95
3	·9920202	·0079798	56·09	34	·9919489	·0080511	31·26	64	·9544581	·0455419	11·45
4	·9935094	·0064906	55·54	35	·9915767	·0084233	30·51	65	·9511891	·0488109	10·97
5	·9940609	·0059391	54·90	36	·9910973	·0089027	29·76	66	·9491130	·0508870	10·51
6	·9954520	·0045480	54·22	37	·9906768	·0093232	29·03	67	·9469494	·0530506	10·04
7	·9965826	·0034174	53·41	38	·9903885	·0096115	28·30	68	·9446631	·0553369	9·58
8	·9974189	·0025811	52·65	39	·9900638	·0099362	27·57	69	·9419265	·0580735	9·11
9	·9979421	·0020579	51·78	40	·9896719	·0103281	26·84	70	·9377764	·0622236	8·64
10	·9981725	·0018275	50·89	41	·9892689	·0107311	26·11	71	·9317183	·0682817	8·22
11	·9980949	·0019051	49·98	42	·9887049	·0112951	25·39	72	·9244133	·0755867	7·75
12	·9979674	·0020326	49·08	43	·9879420	·0120580	24·65	73	·9169053	·0830947	7·34
13	·9977893	·0022107	48·18	44	·9872296	·0127704	23·97	74	·9089223	·0910777	6·96
14	·9975604	·0024396	47·28	45	·9866157	·0133843	23·27	75	·9014884	·0985116	6·51
15	·9972301	·0027699	46·40	46	·9861989	·0138011	22·58	76	·8948647	·1051353	6·27
16	·9970221	·0029779	45·52	47	·9858149	·0141851	21·89	77	·8889300	·1110700	5·95
17	·9965866	·0034134	44·66	48	·9853850	·0146150	21·20	78	·8824101	·1175899	5·63
18	·9961593	·0038407	43·81	49	·9848244	·0151756	20·51	79	·8757080	·1242920	5·32
19	·9957653	·0042347	42·98	50	·9838093	·0161907	19·82	80	·8690262	·1309738	5·00
20	·9954553	·0045447	42·16	51	·9821404	·0178596	19·13	81	·8607608	·1392392	4·68
21	·9951667	·0048333	41·35	52	·9804566	·0195434	18·47	82	·8501261	·1498739	4·36
22	·9949639	·0050361	40·54	53	·9789641	·0210359	17·83	83	·8362763	·1637237	4·04
23	·9947709	·0052291	39·75	54	·9771110	·0228890	17·20	84	·8197635	·1802365	3·73
24	·9945492	·0054508	38·95	55	·9758044	·0241956	16·58	85	·7995055	·2004945	3·44
25	·9942850	·0057150	38·16	56	·9752044	·0247956	15·99	86	·7750000	·2250000	3·18
26	·9940897	·0059103	37·38	57	·9740342	·0259658	15·39	87	·7485866	·2514134	2·96
27	·9937435	·0062565	36·60	58	·9724615	·0275385	14·79	88	·7281208	·2718792	2·79
28	·9934788	·0065212	35·83	59	·9709995	·0290005	14·19	89	·7053081	·2946919	2·64
29	·9932225	·0067775	35·06	60	·9686662	·0313338	13·60	90	·6842561	·3157439	2·54
30	·9930151	·0069849	34·30								

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Expectation of Life—Females.

Age.	Expectation of living a year.	Expectation of dying in a year.	Average duration of life.	Age.	Expectation of living a year.	Expectation of dying in a year.	Average duration of life.	Age.	Expectation of living a year.	Expectation of dying in a year.	Average duration of life.
0	·8888400	·1111600	52·90	31	·9934405	·0065595	35·65	61	·9736931	·0263069	13·86
1	·9721210	·0278790	58·45	32	·9930435	·0069565	34·88	62	·9713613	·0286387	13·23
2	·9894336	·0105664	59·11	33	·9925462	·0074538	34·12	63	·9680335	·0319665	12·60
3	·9927596	·0072404	58·74	34	·9921147	·0078853	33·38	64	·9656029	·0343971	12·00
4	·9954631	·0045369	58 16	35	·9917070	·0082930	32·64	65	·9625497	·0374503	11·41
5	·9948987	·0051013	57·42	36	·9913404	·0086596	31·91	66	·9594806	·0405194	10·83
6	·9950748	·0049252	56·71	37	·9911013	·0088087	31·18	67	·9564807	·0435193	10·27
7	·9965210	·0034790	55·99	38	·9910626	·0089374	30·46	68	·9532494	·0467506	9·72
8	·9976725	·0023275	55·19	39	·9908016	·0091984	29 73	69	·9483063	·0516937	9·17
9	·9985209	·0014791	54·11	40	·9905482	·0094518	29·00	70	·9427203	·0572797	8·64
10	·9989402	·0010598	53·39	41	·9903673	·0096327	28·27	71	·9355413	·0644587	8·13
11	·9987100	·0012900	52·45	42	·9901798	·0098202	27·54	72	·9275389	·0724611	7·66
12	·9984790	·0015210	51·52	43	·9897077	·0102923	26·81	73	·9171927	·0828073	7·24
13	·9982349	·0017651	50·60	44	·9897463	·0102537	26·08	74	·9076235	·0923765	6·83
14	·9979653	·0020347	49·68	45	·9896694	·0103306	25·34	75	·8984561	·1015439	6·47
15	·9976942	·0023058	48·78	46	·9895765	·0104235	24·60	76	·8893288	·1106712	6·15
16	·9973969	·0026031	47·90	47	·9892714	·0107286	23·86	77	·8803992	·1196008	5·85
17	·9970853	·0029147	47·02	48	·9892917	·0107083	23·11	78	·8748750	·1251250	5·57
18	·9967587	·0032413	46·16	49	·9887459	·0112541	22·36	79	·8673315	·1326685	5·30
19	·9965028	·0034972	45·30	50	·9882762	·0117238	21·61	80	·8600718	·1399282	5·04
20	·9963181	·0036819	44·46	51	·9875086	·0124914	20·86	81	·8536523	·1463477	4·78
21	·9961315	·0038685	43·62	52	·9870483	·0129517	20·11	82	·8446195	·1553805	4·51
22	·9958683	·0041317	42·79	53	·9859112	·0140888	19·37	83	·8343370	·1656630	4·24
23	·9956269	·0043731	41·97	54	·9847452	·0152548	18·64	84	·8262100	·1737900	3·99
24	·9952823	·0047177	41·15	55	·9834462	·0165538	17·92	85	·8117506	·1882494	3·72
25	·9949456	·0050544	40·34	56	9820026	·0179974	17·21	86	·7953155	·2046845	3·47
26	·9945535	·0054465	39·54	57	·9801426	·0198574	16·52	87	·7795171	·2204829	3·24
27	·9943458	·0056542	38·76	58	·9790564	·0209436	15·85	88	·7590197	·2409803	3·00
28	·9941092	·0058908	37·98	59	·9773721	·0226279	15·17	89	·7309417	·2690583	2·80
29	·9939071	·0060929	37·20	60	·9755284	·0244716	14·51	90	·6650307	·3349693	2·64
30	·9937017	·0062983	36·42								

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The calculation was extended to 100 years, but it was deemed advisable to cut the table short at 90 years, as the number of persons over that age was altogether too small to afford sufficient experience on which to found a Life Table. As a matter of curiosity, it may be mentioned that the expectation of life at ages over 90 was as follows :—

Age.	Living out of 100,000 born.		Expectation of life in years.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
91 ...	761	1,084	2·48	2·72
92 ...	529	767	2·41	2·64
93 ...	361	531	2·36	2·59
94 ...	242	367	2·27	2·52
95 ...	163	250	2·16	2·47
96 ...	106	169	1·96	2·42
97 ...	67	113	1·68	2·37
98 ...	42	75	1·37	2·31
99 ...	26	49	0·80	2·28
100 ...	13	31	0·16	2·31

In addition to the expectation of life in New South Wales, in the following table will be found a column showing the H.M. (healthy male) table of the Australian Mutual Provident Society. The corresponding figures of Dr. Ogle's English Life Table are also given, by way of comparison. And while the after-lifetime at each age in the H.M. table of the A.M.P. Society is higher than that for the Colony, the gradation is much the same in each calculation. That one should give an estimate of greater longevity at the different ages than the other is but natural; for in computing the table for the whole Colony, the total numbers of persons living and dying at each period of life are taken into consideration, whereas in the case of the A.M.P. table, only selected lives, or such as would be accepted by an insurance society, form the basis of computation. Looking at the two tables, therefore, in their true light, the one is, as it stands, more an index of the correctness of the other than it would be if the figures in both were identical. Dr. Farr calls the Life Table a *biometer*, and speaks of it as of equal importance, in all inquiries connected with human life or sanitary improvements, with the barometer or thermometer and similar instruments employed in physical research, and as being also the keystone or pivot on which the whole science of life assurance hinges. For even supposing that an insurance society had empirically arrived at an equitable rate of premium for assuring lives, the Mortality or Life Table is still required in order to ascertain the value of such premiums for a prospective term of years, as against the value of the sums assured thereby, so that a statement of assets and liabilities may be periodically prepared. Without such knowledge a division of "profits" would be

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impossible. In fact, the Life Table is absolutely essential for the "solution of all questions depending on the duration of human life":—

Age.	New South Wales.		H.M. A.M.P. Soc.	England. (Dr. Ogle.)	
	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.
Birth	49·6	52·9	.....	41·4	44·6
5 years	54·9	57·4	.....	50·9	53·1
10 ,, ...	50·9	53·4	.....	47·6	49·8
15 ,, ...	46·4	48·8	.....	43·4	45·6
20 ,, ...	42·2	44·5	46·0	39·4	41·7
25 ,, ...	38·2	40·3	41·8	35·7	38·0
30 ,, ...	34·3	36·4	37·5	32·1	34·4
35 ,, ...	30·5	32·6	33·4	28·6	30·9
40 ,, ...	26·8	29·0	29·3	25·3	27·5
45 ,, ...	23·3	25·3	26·4	22·1	24·1
50 ,, ...	19·8	21·6	22·6	18·9	20·7
55 ,, ...	16·6	17·9	18·9	16·0	17·3
60 ,, ...	13·6	14·5	15·2	13·1	14·2
65 ,, ...	11·0	11·4	12·0	10·6	11·4
70 ,, ...	8·6	8·6	9·6	8·3	9·0
75 ,, ...	6·5	6·5	7·1	6·3	6·9
80 ,, ...	5·0	5·0	4·8	4·8	5·2
85 ,, ...	3·4	3·7	3·4	3·6	3·9
90 ,, ...	2·5	2·6	2·4	2·7	2·9

NATURALISATION.

The law relating to the naturalisation of foreigners in New South Wales is mainly contained in two statutes. One of these is the Denization Act of 1828, 9 George IV, No. 6. This Act enables the Governor or Acting Governor to grant letters of denization to such foreigners as may arrive in the Colony with a recommendation to that effect from the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, such letters of denization to entitle the holder to all the rights, privileges, and advantages in the Colony which a British-born citizen could claim. Another Act which was passed to deal with naturalisation was 11 Victoria No. 39, which was amended by 17 Victoria No. 8, and repealed in 1876 in favour of an Act now in force, which is known as the Naturalisation Act of New South Wales, 39 Victoria, No. 19. This measure was passed in 1875, and assented to in 1876, having been reserved for the Queen's pleasure. The Act provides that an alien in New South Wales may hold and acquire real and personal property, but shall not be qualified for any office nor enjoy either a municipal or parliamentary franchise; shall not be qualified to be the owner of a British ship; nor have any rights and privileges except such as are expressly conferred upon him. After a residence in the Colony of not less than five years a foreigner may apply for letters of naturalisation, and the Governor

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may give or withhold the same as he thinks best for the public good. Such letters if granted have no effect until the oath of allegiance has been taken, after which the holder becomes in every respect entitled to all the privileges which attach to those who are British by birth. The only case in which naturalisation is no longer permitted is in regard to the Chinese, which was provided for by special legislation, as will be shown hereafter. Certificates of naturalisation granted in other colonies do not confer the right of British citizenship in New South Wales.

There were 234 foreigners naturalised in this Colony during 1894. Germans have availed themselves most largely of the privileges of naturalisation, the number of certificates issued to them amounting to upwards of one half of the total number granted since 1849. The following table shows the native countries of those colonists who obtained certificates of naturalisation from 1849 to 1894:—

Native Countries.	1849 to 1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	Total
Europe—												
Austria	68	1	5	3	3	6	3	10	4	10	4	117
Belgium	13	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	18
Denmark	165	7	18	19	10	15	9	21	11	22	26	323
France	166	10	8	9	7	9	6	9	4	8	16	252
Germany	2,637	47	45	48	32	58	34	55	54	78	89	3,177
Greece	19	1	2	3	2	4	...	2	...	1	...	34
Holland	50	1	2	3	1	2	3	2	1	1	...	66
Italy	95	4	5	6	6	5	5	8	13	...	6	153
Norway	46	3	4	5	9	8	3	14	8	14	22	136
Portugal	27	...	...	...	3	2	...	1	...	2	2	37
Russia	34	11	10	6	10	6	5	18	9	35	18	162
Spain	13	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	1	17
Sweden	146	17	10	13	16	13	18	41	13	40	31	358
Switzerland	120	1	3	1	1	3	5	3	3	1	5	146
America—												
United States	97	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	4	108
Not specified	13	...	...	1	...	3	1	...	...	...	1	19
Asia—												
China	880	22	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	908
Other nationalities—												
Western islands	13	1	4	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	21
Not specified	82	...	...	1	4	3	6	6	19	6	8	135
Total	4,684	128	124	119	105	137	99	193	143	221	234	6,187

Of persons naturalised during 1894, there were 1 baker, 1 blacksmith, 1 bootmaker, 8 carpenters, 1 chemist, 4 clerks, 1 coal-lumper, 2 dealers, 7 engineers, 20 farmers, 2 fish-dealers, 5 gardeners, 1 hair-dresser, 1 hawker, 2 jewellers, 43 labourers, 1 licensed victualler, 18 mariners, 4 merchants, 10 miners, 11 storekeepers, 1 storeman, 6 tailors, 1 tanner, 1 tobacconist, 2 warehousemen, 2 wharf labourers, and 77 others.

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Chinese Population.

The unanimity with which the different Colonies have passed laws restricting the immigration of Chinese, and prohibiting their landing except upon payment of a heavy poll-tax, may be taken as some evidence of the undesirability of the race as colonists. At the Census of 1861 there were in the Colony 12,988 Chinese; in 1871 the number had fallen to 7,220; in 1881 it had risen to 10,205, and to 15,445 at the end of 1888; since that time, however, the departures have been numerous, and only 14,156 Chinese were enumerated in April, 1891. For many years New South Wales offered little inducement to the Chinese as a place of settlement, the superior attractiveness of Victoria and other colonies as gold producers claiming their attention. At the rush to Lambing Flat in 1860, however, large numbers of Chinese came across the border and established themselves in this Colony, their strength being constantly recruited by fresh arrivals from China; but these Chinese did not remain in New South Wales, for at the Census of 1871 there were 5,768 less than ten years previously.

The numbers of Chinese arriving in and departing from New South Wales since 1875 will be found in the following table:—

Year.	Arrivals.	Departures.	Year.	Arrivals.	Departures.
1875	625	1,209	1885	2,929	1,726
1876	696	940	1886	3,092	1,883
1877	884	490	1887	4,436	2,773
1878	2,485	1,560	1888	1,848	1,562
1879	1,979	557	1889	7	941
1880	2,942	876	1890	15	637
1881	4,465	929	1891	17	581
1882	1,007	884	1892	21	755
1883	1,936	1,402	1893	34	558
1884	2,191	1,038	1894	76	627

It will be seen that 1878 and the following years were marked by a large increase in the arrivals from China. The influx appeared in 1881 sufficiently formidable to demand the interference of the Legislature. Accordingly, the "Influx of Chinese Restriction Act" was passed, with the result that the subsequent year was marked by a decrease in the arrivals to the extent of 3,458; after that time, however, there was a steady increase until 1888, when legislation again stepped in, this time with more stringent regulations, to restrict the numbers arriving on these shores. The increasing desire on the part of the Chinese to migrate to Australia had brought about considerable discussion, which culminated in a Conference of delegates from all the colonies being held in Sydney in 1888. As a result, the Conference

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prepared a draft Bill, which was afterwards submitted to the Parliaments of the different colonies. The Bill provided that more stringent regulations should be enforced to check the influx of Chinese to these shores; and although it was not deemed advisable that their landing should be prohibited altogether, yet it was considered necessary that such a limit should be placed to the numbers privileged to land as would prove an efficient check to Chinese immigration. Before the Conference met, progress had been made in the New South Wales Legislature with a Bill which was proceeded with after the Conference adjourned, and became law on the 11th July, 1888. By this measure vessels are prohibited from carrying to the Colony more than one Chinese passenger to every 300 tons; and Chinese landing are to pay a poll-tax of £100, and are not to engage in mining, without express authority under the hand and seal of the Minister of Mines, nor are they permitted to become naturalised. The penalty for a breach of the Act is £500. The Act has operated to the entire cessation of Chinese immigration. How greatly the number of arrivals of Chinese has fallen off during the last few years will be seen from the table following, which also shows the number who have paid the poll-tax during the years enumerated :—

Year.	Chinese arriving.	Chinese paying Poll-tax.	Year.	Chinese arriving.	Chinese paying Poll-tax.
1885	2,929	1,060	1890	15	3
1886	3,092	1,284	1891	17	1
1887	4,436	1,798	1892	21	2
1888	1,848	462	1893	34	7
1889	7	1	1894	76	3

At the Census of 1891, there were 42,521 Chinese recorded in the Australasian Colonies, as shown in the table following. When the Census of 1881 was taken the total number in the Colonies was set down as 43,706, which is 1,185 more than the number in 1891 :—

Colony.	Number.
New South Wales	14,156
Victoria	9,377
Queensland	8,574
South Australia	3,997
Western Australia	917
Tasmania	1,056
New Zealand	4,444
Australasia	42,521

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Information showing the number of marriages of Chinamen resident in the Colony is not available, nor are particulars to hand relating to the nationalities of the women who form matrimonial unions with the Chinese; but some particulars were ascertained when the last Census was taken. Of the 286 Chinese then in the Colony whose wives were with them, 129 were married to natives of New South Wales, 29 to Victorians, 7 to wives born in Queensland, 1 to a South Australian, 4 to Tasmanians, 1 to a native of New Zealand, and 4 to wives born in Australia, the particular colony not being stated. Twenty-eight Chinese were married to English women, 3 to Scotch women, 16 to Irish women, 1 to a German, and 1 to a French woman. In 60 cases the wife was a native of the Chinese Empire as well as the husband, while in the remaining 2 cases the birthplace of the wife was not stated.

Aborigines.

This name, signifying "from the origin," was given to the earliest known inhabitants of Italy, but it is now applied to the original or primitive inhabitants of any country. As the history of the native race in these colonies is so entwined with the progress of the British people in Australia, a few words concerning them may not be out of place. The aborigines of Australia form a distinct race, and it may be presumed that the whole of them throughout the continent sprang from the same stock, although it is remarkable that their languages differ so greatly that tribes within short distances of each other are often quite unable to understand each other, and in fact almost every large community of natives has its own peculiar dialect. It is difficult to form a correct estimate of their numbers, and while there is reason to believe that some generations ago they were very numerous, there is ample evidence of late years that in many places they are decreasing, and they may now be counted by fives where they were formerly counted by hundreds. In Tasmania they have disappeared altogether, the last of the tribe in that Colony having died in 1876.

It is recorded that Governor Phillip estimated the aboriginal population about the close of the last century at one million; the number between Broken Bay and Botany Bay appearing to have been about 3,000. It is impossible to say how far this estimate was in accordance with fact; for although at the time it did not probably seem an exaggerated conjecture in the face of so large a number as 3,000 having been found within the small area between the bays above mentioned, yet considering how small a portion of the territory was then explored by the early settlers, the statement must be accepted as what it professes to be, namely, an estimate at a time when the data to hand were very limited. At the Census of 1891 the aborigines in Australia, exclusive

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of Queensland (in which Colony the aborigines were not even estimated), were said to number 38,879, distributed as follows :—

Colony.	Males.	Females.	Total.
New South Wales.....	4,559	3,721	8,280
Victoria	325	240	565
South Australia.....	14,510	9,279	23,789
Western Australia	3,516	2,729	6,245
Total	22,910	15,969	38,879

The original inhabitants of New Zealand, or Maoris, as they are called, are quite a different race. They are gifted with a considerable amount of intelligence, are quick at imitation, and brave even to rashness ; on the other hand they are avaricious, and oft times ferocious. According to the Census of 1881 they numbered 44,097. Like the Australian aborigines, they appear to be decreasing in number, the Census of 1886 enumerating only 41,432, although at that of 1891 the total was 41,993. It is believed, however, that at the time the colonists first landed their number was fully 120,000.

According to the Census of 1891, there were 8,280 aborigines in New South Wales, this total including half-castes, who numbered 3,183. The number of aborigines under the control of the Aborigines Protection Board at the end of the year 1894 was 7,021, of whom 3,756 were full-bloods and 3,265 half-castes. This shows a decrease on the return for the end of 1893 of 226 full-bloods and 8 half-castes, or a total decrease for the year 1894 of 234. The number of births reported during 1894 was 217 (132 of the children being half-castes), and the deaths 230 (76 half-castes). There are three mission stations. These establishments, when first formed, were little more than camping grounds for the aborigines, where the blacks worked for their rations, and elementary instruction was imparted to the children ; but now they have developed into settlements, with greatly improved huts for married couples, and adequate accommodation for teaching, duly qualified instructors having been appointed by the Department of Public Instruction. During the year, 7,064 blankets were forwarded from the Government Stores Department to the various Benches of Magistrates for distribution among the blacks. This bounty has been conceded for many years. At the Census of 1881, only 1,673 aborigines were enumerated ; the returns for 1891 must not, however, be taken as showing an increase, but as proving that at the previous Census the aboriginals passed over as being in a wild state far outnumbered those within the bounds of civilisation.

It has been the misfortune of the aboriginal of Australia, as it was of the Carribee, the North American Indian, and the Hottentot, to be found in the way of European colonisation ; and the black has not seen

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the white man take possession of his territory without many an attempt, by deeds of cunning and of blood, to stop the invasion and to avenge the injury. It would be easy to gather from the records of British colonisation in Australia many instances of horrible crimes committed by the aborigines, who are, in fact, partakers of the worst passions of human nature. But it must not be forgotten that, amongst the people of British origin who settled upon the land formerly occupied by the blacks alone, were many whose crimes against the aborigines at least equalled in atrocity any committed by that unfortunate race. Cunning and ferocity were the natural concomitants of such a struggle; and the remembrance of what cunning and ferocity have done tends to make the colonists slow to recognise any characteristics of an opposite kind in the blacks. There is, however, evidence from the songs and cherished traditions of the aborigines,* that they are by no means destitute of some qualities in which civilised men glory—such as the power of inventing tragic and sarcastic fiction, the thirst for religious mystery, stoical contempt of pain, and reverence for departed friends and ancestors. The manner in which they have displayed these characteristics presents such a strange mixture of wisdom and folly, of elevating and degrading thoughts, of interesting and of repulsive traditions, of pathetic and grotesque observances, that in order to account for the apparent contradictions recourse must be had to the supposition that this race has descended from an ancient and higher civilisation, of which its people have retained some memorials.

Vaccination.

Vaccination is not compulsory in New South Wales, and is resorted to chiefly in times of scare, when an epidemic of small-pox is thought to be imminent. It is easy to discover from the returns of the Government vaccinators the years when the community was threatened by the disease, as at such times the number of persons submitting themselves to vaccination largely increased. The number returned does not include those treated by private medical officers, by whom a large number of persons are vaccinated. The following figures show the number of persons vaccinated by Government Medical Officers since the year 1876 :—

Year.	Sydney and Suburbs.	Country.	Total.	Year.	Sydney and Suburbs.	Country.	Total.
1876	1,269	3,276	4,545	1886	452	1,311	1,763
1877	5,308	11,943	17,251	1887	1,031	2,199	3,230
1878	532	3,038	3,570	1888	1,091	1,095	2,186
1879	657	4,981	5,638	1889	728	1,676	2,404
1880	460	4,699	5,159	1890	958	1,239	2,197
1881	8,738	52,501	61,239	1891	531	1,036	1,567
1882	380	1,869	2,249	1892	1,326	2,688	4,014
1883	296	600	896	1893	838	1,709	2,547
1884	630	6,569	7,199	1894	15	1,942	1,957
1885	346	1,884	2,230				

* *Vide* Kamilaroi and other Australian Languages, by Rev. W. Ridley, M.A.

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The number and ages of persons vaccinated by the Government Medical Officers during 1894 will be found below :—

District.	Under 1 year.	From 1 to 5 years.	From 5 to 10 years.	10 years and upwards.	Total.
Sydney and suburbs	3	5	7	.....	15
Country districts	47	395	905	595	1,942
Total	50	400	912	595	1,957

Insanity.

The number of insane persons under treatment in hospitals is almost a fixed proportion of the total population, viz., 2·83 per thousand. Since 1874 the proportion has varied only from 0·07 above and 0·09 per thousand below the average stated. The hospitals for insane, under the immediate control of the Government, are six in number—five for ordinary insane, and one, at Parramatta, for criminals. Besides these there are two licensed houses, each for a single patient, at Picton; one at Ryde for three patients; and another at Cook's River, near Sydney, containing 39 inmates.

The number of insane persons under treatment on the 31st December, 1894, under official cognisance, was 3,587, distributed as follows :—

Name of Hospital.	Number on Register.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Government Hospitals—			
Callan Park	458	379	837
Gladesville	549	358	907
Parramatta, free	669	383	1,052
Do. criminal	38	10	48
Newcastle	158	148	306
Rydalmere	309	84	393
Licensed Houses—			
Cook's River	17	22	39
Picton (two)	.....	2	2
Ryde	.....	3	3
Total	2,198	1,389	3,587

These figures are 162 in excess of the total for 1893.

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The proportion of insane to the whole population, as already pointed out, is almost a constant quantity. This will be seen from the accompanying table giving the number of persons in hospitals for insane at the close of each year from 1875 to 1894 inclusive:—

Year ended 31 December.	No. of Insane.	Proportion of Insane to population per 1,000.	Year ended 31 December.	No. of Insane.	Proportion of Insane to population per 1,000.
1875	1,697	2·85	1886	2,717	2·80
1876	1,743	2·83	1887	2,821	2·81
1877	1,829	2·84	1888	2,898	2·80
1878	1,916	2·85	1889	2,974	2·79
1879	2,011	2·83	1890	3,102	2·82
1880	2,099	2·83	1891	3,134	2·74
1881	2,218	2·90	1892	3,312	2·77
1882	2,307	2·89	1893	3,425	2·80
1883	2,403	2·87	1894	3,587	2·87
1884	2,524	2·86			
1885	2,643	2·85		Mean.....	2·83

The amount of insanity in New South Wales and in England, compared with their respective populations, is about the same, though there appears to be a tendency in the latter country for the rate to increase. The greatest proportion of lunacy in these colonies is found in Victoria, and the lowest in Western Australia, Tasmania, and South Australia. The following figures show the number of insane persons per thousand of the population in the United Kingdom, and in the Australasian Colonies:—

Country.	Insane persons per 1,000 of population.	Country.	Insane persons per 1,000 of population.
England.....	2·9	Queensland	3·0
Scotland	2·9	South Australia	2·5
Ireland	3·2	Western Australia ...	1·8
New South Wales ...	2·9	Tasmania	2·3
Victoria.....	3·5	New Zealand	3·2

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The percentage of deaths of insane persons is comparatively light. The following table has been computed on the basis of the average number of patients resident in hospitals for the insane :—

Year.	Percentage of deaths of average number resident.			Year.	Percentage of deaths of average number resident.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.		Males.	Females.	Total.
1885	7·61	4·97	6·59	1891	8·42	5·65	7·40
1886	7·54	6·37	7·08	1892	6·27	5·72	6·06
1887	6·64	7·03	6·79	1893	8·37	5·88	7·42
1888	7·59	6·32	7·11	1894	6·12	5·22	5·78
1889	7·73	6·44	7·24				
1890	7·01	5·74	6·52	Mean...	7·33	5·93	6·80

It has been suggested that there is a very intimate connection between commercial depression and the increase in the number of insane persons admitted to the asylums of the Colony. A glance at the figures for 1892 and succeeding years, during which such depression has been sorely felt, would seem to favour this view, seeing that the proportion per thousand of the population advanced from 0·52 in 1891 to 0·56 in 1892, and to 0·58 in 1894. But these figures do not finally dispose of the question, for during the seven years which closed with 1883—a period of general prosperity—the admissions ranged from 0·72 to 0·57 per thousand. It is very probable that the most immediate effect of depressed times is to send to the asylums a number of harmless but demented persons, who in more prosperous days are supported by their relatives. On the other hand, the quota of admissions to asylums in prosperous times is maintained by insanity induced directly or indirectly by the means of indulgence which high wages and large gains commonly afford. The number of admissions to the hospitals for insane, and the proportion per 1,000 of the mean population, are shown below :—

Year.	Admissions.	Proportion to population per 1,000.	Year.	Admissions.	Proportion to population per 1,000.
1875	356	0·60	1886	567	0·58
1876	360	0·59	1887	532	0·52
1877	457	0·72	1888	587	0·55
1878	424	0·64	1889	550	0·50
1879	440	0·63	1890	611	0·54
1880	476	0·65	1891	596	0·52
1881	494	0·64	1892	666	0·56
1882	473	0·59	1893	688	0·57
1883	476	0·57	1894	712	0·58
1884	493	0·55			
1885	567	0·60		Mean	0·58

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Until June, 1893, there was no law in force in this Colony to prevent the influx of insane persons, and, as a consequence, the splendid hospitals which the bounty of the Government has established for the treatment of the insane were the means of burdening the community with the care of unfortunate persons belonging to other countries where the treatment meted out to the insane is less generous or less scientific than in New South Wales. On the date mentioned, Act 56 Vic. No. 23 came into force. Section 4 of this measure renders the owner charterer, agent or master of a vessel liable for the maintenance of any insane person landed in the Colony. By the close of the year, ten cases had been reported. Seven of these persons soon recovered, and were allowed to go about their business; two were returned by steamship companies to the ports from which the passages were taken; and one remained in hospital at the charge of the owners of the ship in which he arrived. No cases were reported during 1894, but the patient who was in hospital at the end of 1893 continued in the institution under the former conditions.

The following figures show the birthplaces of patients under care in the hospitals for the insane during the year 1894:—

Country.	No. of Patients.	Percentage of total.	Country.	No. of Patients.	Percentage of total.
New South Wales...	1,500	34·68	France	27	0·62
Other British Colonies	226	5·23	Germany	93	2·15
England.....	957	22·13	China	81	1·87
Scotland	210	4·86	Other countries and not ascertained ...	210	4·85
Ireland.....	1,021	23·61			

In this and the two following tables all the patients received into hospitals for the insane during the whole of the year are enumerated; the number remaining under control on the 31st December is given in a previous table.

The number of persons under restraint who are natives of this Colony forms only 34·68 per cent. of the total, whilst the native-born element of the total population is above 64 per cent. Of the British-born patients, England contributes nearly twice the number that her population in this country would warrant, and Ireland nearly four times the number.

The ages of the insane are set forth in the following table, which shows that nearly one half of the whole number (46 per cent.) are between 30 and 50 years of age. The table deals only with patients

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in hospitals and licensed houses for the insane, and gives the number and the percentage for 1894 at each period of life :—

Ages of Insane.	No. of Patients.	Percentage of all ages.
Under 5 years	7	0·16
5 and under 10 years	34	0·79
10 ,, 15 ,,	49	1·13
15 ,, 20 ,,	134	3·10
20 ,, 30 ,,	651	15·05
30 ,, 40 ,,	1,020	23·58
40 ,, 50 ,,	974	22·52
50 ,, 60 ,,	839	19·40
60 ,, 70 ,,	426	9·85
70 ,, 80 ,,	155	3·58
80 years and upwards	36	0·84

Juvenile lunatics are as a rule sent to the Hospital for the Insane at Newcastle—an asylum which is set apart for imbecile and idiotic patients; so that of the 90 mentioned in the foregoing table as being under 15 years of age, the majority were in that institution.

The major portion of the persons under restraint are single; amongst the married, females largely predominate, as also amongst the widowed. The conditions as to marriage of patients in hospitals for the insane during 1894 are shown hereunder :—

Conditions as to Marriage.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Single	1,747	720	2,467
Married	542	744	1,286
Widowed	116	189	305
Unascertained	197	70	267

It is popularly supposed that the principal cause of insanity is intemperance. The experience of this Colony, however, does not bear out this opinion. The amount of insanity directly due to drink, though certainly large, is not so considerable as that due to other causes. As far as the records of the hospitals show, the proportion of persons admitted suffering from insanity traceable to intemperance was not more than 12·77 per cent. of the total admissions for the ten years ending with 1894.

Persons suffering from mania induced by excess of drink recover comparatively quickly, and at any one time their number in the hospitals for the insane is scarcely more than 5·5 per cent. The most potent cause appears to be hereditary influence. How far this is productive of insanity cannot, however, be exactly determined; for although the Inspector-General of the Insane, a high authority on lunacy, has ascertained that hereditary influence and congenital defect can be credited with only 12·6 per cent. of the total insanity, this percentage gives no

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idea of the actual amount of hereditary insanity in the Colony. Of the large number of patients the causes of whose insanity is unknown, it is believed that in most instances the insanity is due to hereditary influence; and even in those cases where the primary cause of insanity has been ascertained, there is a strong presumption that many of the patients have inherited an insane neurosis.

In the following table will be found the percentages of the various causes of insanity. The calculations are made on the apparent or assigned causes in the cases of all patients admitted into the asylums and licensed houses for the insane during the ten years 1885–1894 :—

Cause of Insanity.	Percentage of causes of male insanity.	Percentage of causes of female insanity.	Percentage of total insanity.	
Moral :—				
Domestic trouble (including loss of relatives and friends)	1·46	6·75	3·55	
Adverse circumstances (including business anxiety and pecuniary difficulties)	5·71	2·22	4·33	
Mental anxiety and "worry" (not included under above two heads), and overwork	2·33	3·27	2·70	15·97
Religious excitement	1·84	2·94	2·28	
Love affairs (including seduction)	0·39	1·76	0·92	
Fright and nervous shock	0·30	1·59	0·80	
Isolation	1·25	0·72	1·04	
Nostalgia	0·46	0·17	0·35	
Physical :—				
Intemperance in drink	16·54	6·91	12·77	
Do (sexual)	0·69	0·75	0·71	
Venereal disease	1·14	0·04	0·71	
Self-abuse	2·19	0·08	1·37	
Sunstroke	3·28	0·50	2·19	
Accident or injury	4·04	0·97	2·83	
Pregnancy	...	0·92	0·36	
Parturition and the puerperal state	...	8·93	3·50	
Lactation	...	1·59	0·63	
Uterine and ovarian disorders	...	1·59	0·63	47·83
Puberty	0·78	0·62	0·73	
Change of life	...	3·23	1·27	
Fevers	0·21	0·72	0·41	
Privation and overwork	0·95	0·62	0·82	
Epilepsy	7·02	6·04	6·63	
Phthisis	0·30	0·17	0·24	
Disease of skull and brain	3·14	1·05	2·32	
Old age	4·69	4·27	4·53	
Other bodily diseases and disorders	4·23	5·74	4·82	
Excess of opium and cocaine	0·33	0·42	0·36	
Previous attacks	9·21	9·35	9·26	
Hereditary influence ascertained	6·15	9·35	7·40	22·15
Congenital defect ascertained	4·95	5·57	5·20	
Other ascertained causes	0·24	0·38	0·29	
Unknown	16·18	10·77	...	14·05

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During the year 1894 the deaths of persons afflicted with lunacy numbered 211, viz., 143 males and 68 females. Of these, 199 died in asylums. The following are the causes of death, and the number who died from each disease :—

Class.	Order.	Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
I.	2	Diarrhœa	6	3	9
.....	6	Puerperal fever	.....	1	1
III.	.....	Delirium tremens	2	.....	2
IV.	.....	Cancer	5	1	6
.....	.....	Phthisis	12	11	23
.....	.....	Tuberculosis	1	1	2
.....	.....	Diabetes mellitus	.....	1	1
V.	.....	Cyanosis	.....	1	1
.....	.....	Old age	14	5	19
VI.	1	Meningitis	2	.....	2
.....	.....	Apoplexy	10	2	12
.....	.....	Insanity, general paralysis of insane	41	15	56
.....	.....	Epilepsy	21	5	26
.....	.....	Sclerosis	1	.....	1
.....	.....	Tumour of the brain	1	.....	1
.....	3	Valvular disease of the heart	5	3	8
.....	.....	Syncope	.....	2	2
.....	.....	Aneurism	1	.....	1
.....	.....	Heart disease, undefined	1	3	4
.....	4	Bronchitis	2	1	3
.....	.....	Pneumonia	3	2	5
.....	.....	Congestion of lungs	1	1	2
.....	.....	Pleurisy	1	1	2
.....	.....	Gangrene of lungs	1	1	2
.....	5	Hæmatemesis	.....	1	1
.....	.....	Enteritis	1	.....	1
.....	.....	Obstruction of intestines	1	1	2
.....	.....	Hernia	.....	1	1
.....	.....	Fistula	.....	1	1
.....	.....	Gallstones	.....	1	1
.....	.....	Hepatitis	1	.....	1
.....	.....	Jaundice	1	.....	1
.....	7	Albuminuria	1	.....	1
.....	.....	Bright's disease	3	1	4
.....	.....	Kidney disease, undefined	1	1	2
.....	11	Cellulitis	1	.....	1
.....	.....	Lupus	1	.....	1
VII.	1	Syncope while under chloroform	.....	1	1
.....	3	Suicide (falling from height)	1	.....	1
		Total	143	68	211

Of the above total, 15 males and 7 females were over 70 years of age, so that the malady of lunacy is not incompatible with longevity. Included in the figures are three males and two females who were over 80 years of age.

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The average weekly cost during the year 1894 of maintaining insane patients in the hospitals was about 10s. 7d., of which the State paid 8s. 11d., the balance being made up by contributions from the estates of the patients themselves, or by their friends. The subjoined table shows the average weekly cost per head, and the average private contributions from 1885 to 1894 :—

Year.	Cost per head to State.	Contribution per head from private sources.	Total weekly cost per head.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1885	11 3½	1 4½	12 8
1886	11 1¾	1 5½	12 7¼
1887	10 6	1 5½	11 11½
1888	10 2	1 6¼	11 8¼
1889	11 3¼	1 6½	12 9¾
1890	10 4¼	1 7	11 11¼
1891	10 5¼	1 8	12 1¼
1892	10 2	1 9½	11 11½
1893	9 6¾	1 6¾	11 1½
1894	8 11	1 8	10 7
Average for 10 years	10 4½	1 6¾	11 11¼

Criminal lunatics are confined at Parramatta. At the end of 1894 the number in confinement was 48, of whom 38 were males and 10 females, as compared with 49 twelve months before. During 1894 the admissions numbered 11; there were 3 discharged recovered; 3 died, and 6 were transferred to other hospitals. The offences for which the criminal insane are detained are amongst the blackest in the calendar, as will be seen from the following table, which refers to the number in the institution on the 31st December, 1894:—

Crimes committed by the Insane.	Number of Insane.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Murder	18	6	24
Attempt to murder	1	1	2
Rape	1	.....	1
Indecent assault	1	.....	1
Unnatural offence	1	.....	1
Cutting and wounding, shooting with intent, etc.	13	2	15
Sheep and horse stealing	1	.....	1
False pretences	1	.....	1
Attempting suicide	.....	1	1
Larceny and petty theft	1	.....	1
Total	38	10	48

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Detention in the hospitals for the insane is usually terminated by the discharge of the patient on recovery, or for probation when relief has been afforded, to which, of course, must be added removal by death. Omitting the few cases where patients absconded, the following figures give the departures during the last ten years :—

Year.	Discharged.				Died.	
	Recovered.		Relieved.			
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1885	151	83	15	25	118	49
1886	174	99	16	10	121	66
1887	115	99	11	14	111	74
1888	167	108	20	11	132	68
1889	135	109	8	4	138	71
1890	141	116	21	8	128	65
1891	168	129	11	17	167	66
1892	154	107	17	14	122	69
1893	156	130	21	21	172	74
1894	162	134	27	27	130	69
Total ...	1,523	1,114	167	151	1,339	671

During the period included in the above table 5,271 male and 3,330 female patients were under treatment; therefore the proportion per cent. of the total number belonging to each class was—

	Per cent. of Patients. Males.	Females.
Recovered	28·89	33·45
Relieved	3·17	4·53
Died	25·40	20·15

The returns for the same period show the following results :—

	Males.	Females.
Average annual discharges	169	127
Average annual readmissions	33	29

whence it appears that of the patients discharged as recovered or relieved, some 20 per cent. of males and 23 per cent. of females are readmitted. Deducting, therefore, from the number of discharges the probable cases of relapse, it will be found that on an average the annual number of permanent recoveries, temporary recoveries, and deaths will be represented in the following proportion :—

	Males.	Females.
Permanent recoveries	42	47
Temporary recoveries	12	16
Deaths	46	37

Hence it may be said that out of every thousand males who become inmates of asylums for the insane, 420 will be released from their

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suffering by recovery, and 580 only by death; and of females, the proportion will be 470 by recovery, and 530 by death. As the average age of the patients does not differ greatly in the case of both sexes, the comparison may be accepted as a fair one, especially as the average time of residence in the asylum is also about the same.

The average period of residence can be determined indirectly from a comparison between the number of persons admitted and those resident on a given date, and it would appear that for the ten years which closed with 1894, the average was 5·40 years for males and 5·47 for females.

As the annual cost of each patient is nearly £27, every person who is admitted to the hospitals for the insane entails a loss to the State of about £147.

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PART XXVII.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

NEW SOUTH WALES is slow to adopt a general system of local government, notwithstanding the pressing necessity for such a step. In Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and New Zealand, comprehensive systems of local government have been in existence for many years, and the benefits derived therefrom are recognised, not only by the Governments, but by the ratepayers whose property is affected. The central Government is relieved of responsibility and expenditure which form no part of its proper functions, while the property-owner, though compelled to pay rates from which he was formerly free, is benefited in other ways which more than compensate for the direct pecuniary payment.

Under the system at present obtaining in New South Wales, no district, however populous, is compelled to become incorporated, and it is only by the consent of a majority of the prospective ratepayers that a municipality can be formed. Judged by past experience, this voluntary principle is not conducive to the adoption of a general system of local government; indeed, it is quite evident that so long as the central Government continues to construct local works, so long will the residents benefited submit to the absence of local management of their affairs.

During 1894, a Bill was introduced into the Legislative Assembly to provide for the constitution and incorporation into Shires of the entire area of the Colony not already within the boundaries of a municipality, for the purposes of local government. All lands, together with buildings or structures thereon, were to be ratable property within the meaning of the Act, even though such land, buildings, and structures were the property of the Crown; but certain specified exemptions were provided for. It was further provided that the rating might be based on either the unimproved capital value or the net annual value; and provision was also made for the constitution and expenditure of a Shire Fund, for the making, maintenance, and control of highways, etc., and for the construction or repair of boundary highways, bridges, and ferries, and other matters connected therewith. The Bill, however, was abandoned by the Government in consequence of their defeat upon what they considered to be a vital principle.

At the end of 1860 the area incorporated was 409 square miles; in ten years this had increased to 649 miles only; in 1880 to 1,444 miles; and in the early part of 1895 to 2,742 square miles—a very insignificant

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total compared with the whole area of territory. The subjoined figures give the incorporated and unincorporated areas at the beginning of 1895 in each of the three great divisions of the Colony :—

Division.	Incorporated Area.	Unincorporated Area.
	square miles.	square miles.
Eastern.....	1,993	92,463
Central.....	491	86,165
Western	258	124,695
Total.....	2,742	303,323

In addition to the ordinary form of municipal local government, there are various boards and trusts with local jurisdiction, to the operations of which allusion will hereafter be made. The control of water supply and sewerage of the Metropolitan and Hunter River districts is relegated to separate boards. At Hay and Balranald there are irrigation trusts, the formation of which was provided for by special Acts; the Municipal Councils for the time being constitute the trusts. Another trust, which was established at Wentworth, has been dissolved, and its powers assumed by the Government. The Public Vehicles Regulation Act, the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Act, and the Fire Brigades Act, were all passed with the object of extending the principle of local government, and boards have been established to carry out the provisions of the Acts.

Incorporation of the City of Sydney.

The city of Sydney was incorporated on the 20th July, 1842, under Act 6 Vic. No. 3. The Sydney Municipal Council was established during the same year, the election of aldermen taking place on the 9th November. Mr. John Hosking was the first Mayor. The city was first divided into six wards, but at a subsequent adjustment the number was increased to eight, as at present. The boundaries of the city are still the same as then laid down. After a few years great dissatisfaction arose in the minds of the citizens in regard to the manner in which the affairs of the Council were carried on; a Select Committee of the Legislative Council was appointed in 1849 to inquire into the matter, and it reported in favour of the abolition of the Municipal Council, with a recommendation that its powers should be vested in three Commissioners to be appointed for that purpose. This was not carried into effect until 1853, when the Corporation was dissolved, and its powers were handed over to Messrs. G. Elliott, J. Rae, and F. Darvall, who as a Commission exercised them from the beginning of 1854 to the end of 1857. The new Municipal Council of Sydney came into existence at the beginning of

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1858. Mr. George Thornton was the first Mayor under the new order of things, and there were altogether sixteen aldermen, two for each ward. Under the present Act—Sydney Incorporation Act of 1879—the number of aldermen was increased to twenty-four, each ward having three representatives.

Suburban and Country Municipalities.

The Act for the incorporation of Sydney contained no provision for the extension of the municipal principle to other localities, but in 1843 the first step was taken towards the extension of the system to the country districts by the incorporation under letters patent of Campbelltown, Appin, Camden, Narellan, and Picton as one District Council, which was subsequently, under Act 7 Vic. No. 16, subdivided into two by the formation of Campbelltown and Appin into a separate Council.

In 1844 the number of country District Councils had increased to eight, and these, in conjunction with the Municipal Council of Sydney and the Road Trusts established subsequent to the date mentioned, constituted the whole of the local government system prior to 1858. In that year the first important measure relating to general municipal government was enacted. An Act was passed making provision for dissolving, if necessary, the District Councils, and placing the areas controlled by them under municipal bodies. Under its authority thirty-five districts were incorporated, all of which still exist. The law was further amended by the Municipalities Act of 1867. Since this Act was passed many amendments have been made, but the main provisions have been preserved, and many municipalities in various parts of the Colony have been established under its authority.

Boards and Trusts.

The majority of the boards dealing with local affairs have jurisdiction within the metropolitan area and work in conjunction with the local municipalities, although possessing powers independent of these bodies. The Metropolitan Transit Commissioners were appointed under the Public Vehicles Regulation Act of 1879, prior to which date the control of the street traffic was vested in the City Council. The Board originally consisted of three members, but in 1886 the number was increased to four by the appointment of a licensees' representative. The receipts during 1894, which were obtained from license fees, fines, etc., amounted to £5,387, and the expenditure to £5,560.

Under the authority of the Fire Brigades Act of 1884, a Metropolitan Fire Brigade Board and thirty country Boards have been established. The expense of the former is contributed in equal amounts by the Government, the municipalities within the proclaimed area, and the fire insurance companies holding risks within those municipal districts. Some of the country boards receive subsidies from the Government and

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the municipalities interested, but the insurance companies do not consider themselves compelled under the Act to subscribe to the expenditure in connection with country boards.

The Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage was established in 1887, and that of the Hunter District in 1892; reference to their transactions will be found in subsequent pages.

Prior to 1889 the regulation of the port of Wollongong was subject to the Marine Board of New South Wales. In the year named an Act was passed which transferred the control of the port to a Trust composed of twelve Commissioners, who were empowered to improve, manage, and regulate the port. The revenue during 1894 was £6,507, and the expenditure, £7,988. The Trust, which was the only one of its kind in the Colony, was dissolved in the latter part of 1895, when the Government took over the administration of the port.

Irrigation Trusts were established at Wentworth, Hay, and Balranald, under special Acts passed in 1890, 1892, and 1893 respectively. It was provided in each case that the members of the Municipal Council for the time being should be the trustees, and that they should, with the permission of the Governor-in-Council, be authorised to borrow money for the purpose of tapping the neighbouring rivers, and of erecting plant and constructing works for the irrigation of a portion of the temporary common, which should be divided into lots and leased to suitable persons. The area brought under the Wentworth Trust consisted of 10,600 acres; and £1,000 was spent in preliminary expenses during 1894. Under a special clause of the Act, however, the trust has now been dissolved, and its powers assumed by the Government, who will carry out the undertaking. The land administered by the Hay Trust, comprising 19,847 acres, was thrown open in December, 1893, and at the end of 1894, 62 holdings, embracing an area of 778 acres, had been applied for. The receipts to that date, including an advance of £3,000 by the bank, totalled £3,724, and the expenditure £1,447. At Balranald an area of 1,000 acres has been surveyed, and several blocks of from 5 to 40 acres taken up. Pumping machinery has been erected, and works for the distribution of the water commenced.

Municipalities, 1894–5.

In February, 1895, there were 182 incorporated districts, of which 73 were boroughs and 109 municipal districts, the City of Sydney being classed among the latter. During 1894 new municipalities were established at Aberdeen and Peak Hill; and Annandale and Marsfield, formerly portions of Leichhardt and Ryde, were constituted separate municipalities. The 35 districts established under the 1858 Act were under the authority of the present law designated boroughs. Under the provisions of the existing Act contiguous districts with an area of not more than 9 square miles, and a population of not less than 1,000, may be

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incorporated as boroughs; and districts of not more than 50 square miles, with a population of not less than 500, may be formed into municipal districts. Notwithstanding the relatively small area incorporated, the population within the boundaries of these districts in December, 1894, numbered 739,750, which was equal to an average density of 270 to the square mile, or 160 times that of the rest of the Colony.

In Sydney there were, at the close of 1894, 22,400 houses, occupied by 100,000 persons; in the suburbs of Sydney there were 62,676 houses, in which 303,530 persons dwelt; while in the other municipalities there were 68,336 houses, occupied by 336,220 persons; thus making a total for all municipalities of 153,412 dwellings, accommodating 739,750 people. In the unincorporated portion of the Colony there are about 100,000 houses, inhabited by 528,400 persons.

The estimated value of land, houses, and other permanent improvements in the Colony may be approximately stated at £292,196,100. Of this sum, £136,202,100 was the value of property in the incorporated districts, and the balance that of property in the other districts. Of course, the value of unsold Crown lands is not included in this estimate.

Under the provisions of the Municipalities Act the Corporations, in addition to maintaining the thoroughfares, are entitled to construct sewerage and water supply works (where no special board for these services exists), and gas and electric lighting works, and to levy the necessary rates in connection therewith; to make and enforce by-laws for the maintenance of the public health and the abatement of nuisances; and to see the material and sanitary condition generally of the residents properly attended to. Special powers are also granted permitting the establishment of free public libraries, and of free infant schools for the instruction and industrial training of children whose parents are in prison, half-caste children, and other children who are the object of charity.

Under the Municipal Wharves Act of 1893 the Council of any Municipality is empowered to purchase or lease any wharves, jetties, piers, or landing-places erected within the district, and to borrow money for the purpose of constructing such works.

The Sydney Corporation Act directs that valuers shall be appointed from time to time to assess all ratable property within the city, and on the value of such assessment a city rate not exceeding 2s. in the £ may be levied. During the year 1894 the city rate was levied at 1s. 4d. in the £. The rate is struck upon nine-tenths of the fair average annual rental of buildings and cultivated lands, but the Council has power to strike the rate on the full value if necessary. The above rate is the only one enforced by the Council.

Under the Municipalities Act of 1867 assessors are appointed every year, and all municipal property is valued, and the councils are empowered to raise revenue by rates on the value so found, not exceeding 1s. in the

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£ for ordinary purposes, and the same amount for special purposes. The amount of rate is calculated upon nine-tenths of the fair average annual rental of all buildings and cultivated lands, or lands which are, or have been, let for pastoral, mining, or other purposes, whether such lands or buildings are actually in occupation or not, and upon 5 per cent. of the capital value of the fee-simple of all unimproved lands.

During 1894 the ordinary rate of 1s. in the £ was levied in all the suburban and country municipalities, with the exception of Darlington, Cobar, Cudal, Kempsey, and Wallsend, which imposed only 9d. There were 88 municipalities where lighting rates were imposed, ranging from 2d. to 6d. in the £ for gas, 3d. to 6d. for electric light, and 2d. to 3d. for oil lamps. In only 26 municipalities, exclusive of those supplied by the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board, is there a water rate—generally 1s. in the £, though in some places it is as low as 8d. Other special rates, mostly for street-watering, are charged by some of the suburban boroughs.

Municipalities which have availed themselves of the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880 are empowered, under clause 13 of the Act, to levy a rate for each service not exceeding a maximum of 5 per cent. on the assessed value of land and tenements, in addition to the ordinary municipal rate. At the end of 1894, there were 21 municipalities with water-works constructed under the provisions of the Act.

In order to aid municipalities in the difficulties surrounding their inception, the Act of 1867 provides for endowment being granted for a period of fifteen years. In each of the first five years after incorporation, every municipality is entitled to a sum equal to, but not exceeding, the whole amount actually raised by rates or assessments and subscriptions paid during the past year; in each of the next succeeding five years a sum equal to, but not exceeding, one moiety; and in each of the next succeeding five years a sum equal to one-fourth of the amount so paid. After the expiry of these fifteen years the assistance which municipalities may demand from the Government ceases, and any further assistance from the State must be obtained by special grant. The State endowment to the Municipal Council of Sydney was discontinued after the year 1889.

The loans of the City Council have all been raised under special Acts, the Sydney Corporation Act of 1879 not authorising loan undertakings during the period in which the Council was in receipt of the Government endowment, the last payment of which was made in 1889. Particulars of the loans raised under various Acts will be found on page 1,001.

Under the Municipalities Act of 1867 the Council of any municipality may borrow by debentures, mortgage, or otherwise on the credit of any land, personal estate, or annual revenue, actual or prospective, belonging to the body corporate of the municipality—provided that the amount of

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the money borrowed does not exceed the estimated revenue for five years from the services on which the money is secured. In 1884 and 1888 Acts were passed empowering the Councils to contract special loans, which the original Act did not provide for. Another Amending Act, empowering the Councils to raise money to repay loans, became law in 1893.

Municipalities are for the most part divided into wards according to population, and every person, whether male or female, of the full age of twenty-one years, who on the 7th day of January in any year may be the occupier, lessee, or owner of any ratable property within any municipality, and liable to be rated for the same, is entitled to vote. If the property be assessed at an annual value not exceeding £25, the occupier, lessee, or owner is entitled to one vote; if assessed at over £25 and not exceeding £75, to two votes; if over £75 and not exceeding £150, three votes; and if over £150, to four votes. No person whose rates are in arrear is entitled to vote. By special enactment, both ratepayers and owners of property in Sydney are entitled to vote. Votes are cumulative up to four, and the method of voting is by ballot, as in Parliamentary elections.

The persons qualified to vote at municipal elections number approximately 169,313, thus distributed:—City of Sydney, 21,989; suburbs of Sydney, 68,236; and country, 79,088. Including the twenty-four representatives of the City, there are 1,556 aldermen in the Colony, and the average number of municipal electors per alderman is thus 109.

The following table shows the capital and annual values and the assessment of boroughs and municipal districts for the year 1894:—

Boroughs and Municipal Districts.	Capital Value of—		Total Amount of Ordinary Rates Assessed.	Fair Average Annual Value of—	
	Buildings and Cultivated Land only.	All Ratable Property—Improved and Unimproved.		Buildings and Cultivated Land only.	All Ratable Property—Improved and Unimproved.
	£	£	£	£	£
City of Sydney	47,225,800	47,225,800	141,677	2,361,290	2,361,290
Suburbs	41,615,200	49,466,400	135,604	2,599,070	2,991,630
Total, Metropolitan	88,841,000	96,692,200	277,281	4,960,360	5,352,920
Country	35,260,800	39,509,900	114,798	2,330,270	2,542,725
Total, N.S. Wales	124,101,800	136,202,100	392,079	7,290,630	7,895,645

Out of the total capital value of property in all municipalities for 1894, the sum of £124,101,800 represents the capital value of improved lands, that is, of lands upon which buildings have been erected, or which are cultivated, or have been let for pastoral and other purposes;

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and £12,100,300, the value of unimproved lands, classed as such for municipal purposes. The annual value is made up of the fair annual rental of improved lands, and 5 per cent. of the capital value of unimproved lands.

The returns in past years somewhat understated the actual value, as much of the unimproved land was usually assessed at a sum far below its real worth. Taking all municipalities, this understating amounted to probably 10 per cent. The figures for 1894 err perhaps somewhat on the other side, but this is a presumption which cannot well be sustained or disproved until the land tax assessments are completed. The capital and annual values of ratable property for all districts are given in the subjoined table for the eleven years ending 1894. The returns are the same as those furnished by the municipal authorities :—

Year.	Metropolitan Area.		Country Municipalities.	Total.
	Sydney.	Suburbs.		
	£	£	£	£
1884—Annual value.....	1,979,772	1,690,109	1,524,218	5,194,099
Capital value.....	39,595,440	23,046,854	17,661,067	80,303,361
1885—Annual value.....	2,035,235	1,935,884	1,713,578	5,684,697
Capital value.....	40,704,700	29,410,787	21,828,805	91,944,292
1886—Annual value.....	2,096,476	2,289,685	1,727,951	6,114,112
Capital value.....	41,929,520	32,960,620	21,657,828	96,547,968
1887—Annual value.....	2,131,026	2,501,904	1,895,591	6,528,521
Capital value.....	42,529,525	35,536,209	27,738,434	105,804,168
1888—Annual value.....	2,228,817	2,987,061	2,149,566	7,365,444
Capital value.....	44,576,340	45,635,138	30,073,617	120,285,095
1889—Annual value.....	2,276,362	3,110,825	2,405,163	7,792,350
Capital value.....	45,527,240	48,208,834	33,475,972	127,212,046
1890—Annual value.....	2,710,488	3,141,101	2,505,214	8,356,803
Capital value.....	51,237,600	47,987,210	34,784,948	134,009,758
1891—Annual value.....	2,785,846	3,227,851	2,683,806	8,697,503
Capital value.....	55,716,900	51,174,200	37,386,300	144,277,400
1892—Annual value.....	2,777,245	3,290,637	2,861,593	8,929,475
Capital value.....	55,550,000	54,511,000	40,877,000	150,938,000
1893—Annual value.....	2,496,175	3,190,022	2,774,477	8,460,674
Capital value.....	55,470,000	53,481,000	42,275,000	151,226,000
1894—Annual value.....	2,361,290	2,991,630	2,542,725	7,895,645
Capital value.....	47,225,800	49,466,400	39,509,900	136,202,100

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The increase shown in this table is very considerable. From 1884 to 1894 the annual value has risen from £5,194,099 to £7,895,645, or at the rate of 4·28 per cent. per annum, while the capital value has advanced from £80,303,361 to £136,202,100, or at the rate of 5·43 per cent. per annum. Part of this increase is due to an additional number of districts incorporated; but when allowance is made for these it will still be found that the progress is very remarkable. If a comparison be made between the first year shown in the table and 1892, the increase will be seen to have been still more noteworthy; but the general fall which has taken place in the value of property since 1892 has reduced the figures considerably, and as compared with the amounts for that year, those for 1894 show a fall of 11·58 per cent. in the annual value, and of 9·76 in the capital value.

The amount of increase during the ten years from 1884 to 1894 will be found in the following table:—

Municipalities.	Increased annual value during ten years.		Increased capital value during ten years.	
	Total.	Per cent.	Total.	Per cent.
	£		£	
City of Sydney	381,518	19·3	7,630,360	19·3
Suburbs of Sydney	1,301,521	77·0	26,419,546	114·6
Country municipalities	1,018,507	66·8	17,848,833	101·1
Total	2,701,546	52·0	51,898,739	64·6

The growth of the city and suburbs has been marvellous, and Sydney now stands as the second city of the British Empire, as estimated by the annual value of its ratable property, Melbourne ranking third. The annual value of property in Sydney and suburbs, covering an area of 90,988 acres, was, in 1894, £5,352,920; while the annual value of Greater Melbourne, with an area of 162,660 acres, was £5,209,400. The following are the annual values of the principal cities of Great Britain for 1894:—

London	£33,913,707
Glasgow	4,208,000
Manchester and Salford	3,697,140
Liverpool	3,188,640
Birmingham	2,153,473
Leeds	1,373,292
Sheffield	1,167,733
Bristol	1,103,241
Bradford	1,083,499
Newcastle-on-Tyne	1,065,645
Nottingham	897,570

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The capital value of ratable property in all boroughs and municipal districts for 1894 is shown in the following table:—

Boroughs and Municipal Districts.	Total Capital Value of Ratable Property.
Metropolitan—	£
Sydney	47,225,800
Suburbs—	
Alexandria	825,600
Annandale	852,700
Ashfield	2,350,000
Balmain	3,000,400
Botany	245,900
Botany North	319,600
Burwood	1,500,000
Camperdown	672,800
Canterbury	773,500
Concord	565,000
Darlington	493,600
Drummoyne	385,000
Enfield	380,000
Erskineville	681,300
Five Dock	240,800
Glebe	2,262,300
Hunter's Hill	611,700
Hurstville	813,800
Kogarah	646,200
Leichhardt	1,690,700
Manly	908,900
Marrickville	2,362,300
Mosman	667,800
Newtown	2,518,300
North Sydney	4,468,400
Paddington	2,800,000
Petersham	1,884,900
Randwick	1,877,600
Redfern	2,375,000
Rockdale	1,536,800
Ryde	617,000
St. Peters	573,900
Strathfield	850,000
Waterloo	778,000
Waverley	2,537,400
Willoughby	809,900
Woollahra	2,589,300
Total, Suburbs £	49,466,400
Total, Sydney	47,225,800
Total, Metropolitan £	96,692,200

Boroughs and Municipal Districts.	Total Capital Value of Ratable Property.
Country—	£
Aberdeen	63,800
Adamstown	157,600
Albury	442,100
Armidale	445,800
Auburn	494,300
Ballina	109,000
Balranald	83,900
Bathurst	1,070,500
Bega	295,800
Berry	301,300
Bingara	58,800
Blayney	103,700
Bombala	97,500
Bourke	467,600
Bowral	346,000
Braidwood	212,900
Broken Hill	2,862,000
Broughton Vale	81,300
Burrowa	127,300
Cabramatta and Canley Vale	147,200
Camden	281,000
Campbelltown	217,000
Carcoar	35,600
Carrington	209,200
Casino	156,000
Cobar	150,400
Condobolin	87,900
Cooma	245,800
Coonamble	174,400
Cootamundra	245,700
Coraki	51,000
Cowra	180,000
Cudal	89,400
Cudgegong	423,000
Deniliquin	275,300
Dubbo	328,700
Dundas	171,800
Dungog	126,200
Ermington & Rydalmere	117,700
Forbes	440,000
Gerringong	209,600
Glen Innes	321,500
Gosford	101,500
Goulburn	1,222,300
Grafton	545,000
Granville	787,600
Grenfell	107,000
Greta	126,600
Gulgong	100,000

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Boroughs and Municipal Districts.	Total Capital Value of Ratable Property.	Boroughs and Municipal Districts.	Total Capital Value of Ratable Property.
Country—*continued.*	£	Country—*continued.*	£
Gundagai	110,200	Peak Hill	130,600
Gunnedah	90,500	Penrith	330,000
Hamilton	555,300	Plattsburg	193,500
Hay	301,400	Port Macquarie	53,700
Hill End	36,700	Prospect & Sherwood	409,100
Hillston	117,400	Queanbeyan	86,300
Illawarra Central	629,000	Quirindi	151,800
Illawarra North	264,800	Raymond Terrace	63,000
Inverell	296,900	Richmond	158,300
Jamberoo	346,900	Rookwood	392,900
Jerilderie	159,200	Scone	78,900
Junee	155,800	Shellharbour	257,000
Katoomba	176,500	Shoalhaven, Central	90,500
Kempsey	222,200	Silverton	38,000
Kiama	235,900	Singleton	196,300
Lambton	204,900	Singleton, South	77,500
Lambton, New	162,500	Smithfield & Fairfield	230,000
Lismore	500,000	St. Mary's	200,000
Lithgow	432,400	Stockton	323,700
Liverpool	464,600	Tamworth	395,300
Maclean	100,400	Taree	99,400
Maitland, East	340,000	Temora	171,400
Maitland, West	947,500	Tenterfield	254,400
Marsfield	66,900	Tumut	112,000
Merewether	329,000	Ulladulla	318,600
Mittagong	161,100	Ulmarra	202,500
Moama	196,800	Uralla	60,400
Molong	95,700	Wagga Wagga	483,800
Moree	153,600	Walcha	103,400
Morpeth	103,900	Wallendbeen	174,500
Moruya	119,700	Wallsend	333,400
Moss Vale	293,700	Waratah	415,300
Mudgee	275,000	Wellington	145,100
Mulgoa	115,900	Wentworth	63,100
Murrumburrah	112,300	Wickham	709,300
Murrurundi	130,500	Wilcannia	123,200
Muswellbrook	170,800	Windsor	138,700
Narrabri	133,400	Wingham	65,700
Narrandera	284,300	Wollongong	476,000
Newcastle	2,630,100	Yass	347,600
Nowra	208,100	Young	261,400
Numba	131,500		
Nyngan	78,400	Total, Country ..... £	39,509,900
Orange	421,100	Total, Metropolitan ...	96,692,200
Orange, East	191,000		
Parkes	262,000	Total, Metropolitan and Country ..... £	136,202,100
Parramatta	1,582,900		

The capital value of ratable property in Broken Hill and other mining municipalities is exclusive of that of the mines, estimated at several millions, which under the terms of the Municipalities Act are exempt from taxation, although buildings and surface areas are taxed.

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The total revenue collected by all the municipalities of the Colony during the year 1894 amounted to £754,239, including the State endowment of £53,483, but exclusive of the proceeds of loans raised during the year to the amount of £494,028. The chief heads of revenue were as follow:—

Incorporated Districts.	General rates.	Other rates.	Endowment	Other Revenue.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
Sydney—City	160,137	.....	.....	45,599	205,736
,, Suburbs	140,416	41,430	9,499	61,099	252,444
Country	111,283	46,479	43,984	94,313	296,059
Total	411,836	87,909	53,483	201,011	754,239

The general rates amounted to £411,836—1s. in the £ being the ordinary rate of all municipalities except the City of Sydney, which levied 1s. 4d., and the municipalities of Cobar, Cooma, Cudal, Darlington, Kempsey, and Wallsend, where the rate was 9d. for every £ sterling of annual value. No lighting rate is levied in the city, and in order to make the comparison complete the cost of lighting should be deducted from the general rates; the amount spent for this service during 1894 was £14,420, or equal to nearly 1½d. in the £. In all other municipalities the cost of lighting is provided for by a special rate.

Other rates—for lighting, sewerage, and water services—are levied in many municipalities, and the receipts under this head amounted in 1894 to £87,909. This sum does not include the proceeds of rates levied by the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board, the Hunter District Water Supply Board, and the water supplies of Campbelltown, Liverpool, and Richmond, which, though actually local rates, are not collected by the municipalities affected by them. The amount received from the sources specified during 1894 was £280,759, making, with the sum already mentioned, £368,668 as the proceeds of special rates for these services. The amount of lighting, sewerage, and water rates varies between 1d. and 1s.

The State endowment to municipalities is equivalent to 1s. 5½d. per resident, and amounted to 7·1 per cent. of the total revenue received. The proportion which each source of revenue bears to the whole varies considerably, as the following statement shows:—

Incorporated Districts.	General Rates.	Other Rates.	Endowment.	Other Revenue.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
Sydney—City	77·8	.....	.....	22·2
,, Suburbs	55·6	16·4	3·8	24·2
Country	37·6	15·7	14·8	31·9
Total	54·6	11·6	7·1	26·7

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It will be seen from a previous table that the gross revenue of all municipalities, not including the State endowment, was £700,756; if to this be added the revenue of the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board and of the other Boards of Water Supply mentioned above, the total will reach £981,515. This may be taken as the whole burthen of local taxation, and is equivalent to about 26s. 6d. per head of the population residing within the limits of incorporated districts, and to 12·4 per cent. of the total annual value of all ratable property.

The total expenditure during 1894 by the various municipalities, including payments to sinking funds, amounted to £1,032,667, which was £278,428 in excess of the receipts from ordinary sources, the excess being accounted for by expenditure from loans raised during the year or remaining over from previous years. The municipal expenditure may be grouped under the following heads:—

	£
Salaries and office expenses	70,091
Improvement works	465,373
Lighting	80,460
Water	13,153
Interest on mortgages, debentures, and bonds, and on overdrafts	136,587
Repayment of mortgages, debentures, and bonds	161,975
Payments to sinking funds	20,615
Miscellaneous charges (including refunds and transfers)	84,413
Total	£1,032,667

The cost of administration shown above, viz., £70,091, amounts to 6·8 per cent. of the disbursements; the expenditure on public works and improvements, to 45·0 per cent.; on lighting, to 7·8 per cent.; on water supply, to 1·3 per cent.; on interest on mortgages, debentures, and bonds, and on overdrafts, to 13·2 per cent.; on repayment of mortgages, debentures, and bonds, 15·7 per cent.; and on payments to sinking funds, 2·0 per cent. of the total disbursements; while the remaining percentage of 8·2 is made up of miscellaneous items.

The expenditure of the Municipality of Sydney in 1894 reached the sum of £319,910, which may be distributed as under:—

	£
Salaries and office expenses	12,620
Improvement works	206,460
Lighting	14,420
Interest on loans	55,400
Interest on overdraft	674
Loans, streets, and Town Hall sinking funds	16,750
Miscellaneous charges	13,586
Total	£319,910

The expenses of administration only amounted to 4·0 per cent. of the whole disbursements; improvement works absorbed 64·5 per cent.;

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lighting, 4·5 per cent.; interest, 17·5 per cent.; sinking funds, 5·2 per cent.; and other charges, 4·3 per cent. of the total expenditure.

The expenditure of the suburban boroughs and municipal districts for the year was £401,183, which may be subdivided under the following heads:—

	£
Salaries and office expenses	21,254
Public works	126,641
Lighting	36,628
Interest on mortgages, debentures, and bonds, and on overdrafts	43,533
Repayment of mortgages, debentures, or bonds	135,030
Payments to sinking funds	912
Miscellaneous	37,185
Total	£401,183

The office expenses amounted to 5·3 per cent. of the total revenue of these municipalities, which will appear by no means unreasonable when the smallness of some of the districts and the difficulties attending the inception of municipalities are borne in mind; 31·6 per cent. was expended upon public works; lighting claiming in addition 9·1 per cent.; and repayment of loans or towards sinking funds formed the large proportion of 33·9 per cent. of the total expenditure. To cover interest upon loans 10·8 per cent. was required, the remaining proportion of 9·3 per cent. being devoted to miscellaneous services. The expenditure of the country municipalities of the Colony for the year 1894 was £311,574, which, divided under the same headings as those given for suburban municipalities, appears as follows:—

	£
Salaries and office expenses	36,217
Public works	132,272
Lighting	29,412
Water	12,102
Interest on mortgages, debentures, and bonds, and on overdrafts	36,980
Repayment of mortgages, debentures, and bonds	26,945
Payments to sinking funds	2,953
Miscellaneous	34,693
Total	£311,574

The salaries and office expenses form a charge of 11·6 per cent. upon the total receipts during the year; this proportion is, as may be expected, greater than that expended on administration in the suburban municipalities. The majority of the country boroughs and municipal districts, though large in area, have but scant population and little revenue, and the proportion of expenses required to defray salaries and other charges is naturally larger than in the case of the smaller but

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more populous districts surrounding the metropolis. The proportion of expenditure under various heads is as follows :—

Salaries and office expenses	11·6	per cent.
Public works	42·5	,,
Lighting	9·4	,,
Water	3·9	,,
Interest on mortgages, debentures, and bonds, and on overdraft	11·9	,,
Repayment of loans, or to sinking funds	9·6	,,
Miscellaneous	11·1	,,

The receipts of the municipalities of the Colony from loans amounted to £494,028 during the year 1894; while the sum paid off existing loans, or towards sinking funds for the extinguishing of loans, was £182,590. The total amount of loans, excluding the amounts due to the State under the Country Towns' Water and Sewerage Act, outstanding at the close of the year, was £2,583,874, and towards meeting this amount there was a sum at the credit of the sinking funds amounting to £197,471, leaving a net liability of £2,386,403. The sum quoted above was owing during only part of the year, so that the total interest paid amounted to no more than £136,587, the rate of interest varying from 4 to 8 per cent. The sum borrowed at the latter rate amounted to £19,508. The total debt per head of population living in municipalities amounts to £3 9s. 10d., or if allowance be made for sinking funds, £3 4s. 6d., while the yearly charge for interest is 3s. 8d. per head. These sums, viewed apart from the resources of the municipalities, are by no means formidable; but taken in connection with their general assets, the local debts of municipalities will appear insignificant. The following are the outstanding loans of the City of Sydney at the close of 1894 :—

Where floated.	Fund.	Amount.	Rate.	When due.
		£	per cent.	
Sydney	City	*20,000	6	1901
,,	,,	*10,000		1903
,,	,,	*10,000		1904
London	,,	*60,000	4	1912
Sydney	Cattle Sale-yards	35,000	6	1902
London	Streets Loan	200,000	5	1904
,,	,,	*100,000	4	1912
Sydney	Town Hall Loan	40,000	6	1901
,,	,, ,,	35,000		1906
London	,, ,,	*200,000	4	1912
,,	Moore-street Improvement	*250,000	4	1913
,,	Public Markets	300,000	4	1919
Total		£1,260,000	.....	.....

The amounts marked with an asterisk are renewable at maturity on the authority of the several Acts. Sinking funds have been established in connection with most of the issues, the aggregate amount of which, at

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the end of 1894, was £191,222. The outstanding loans of the other municipalities range from £69,900 to £300.

The subjoined statement distinguishes those municipalities which have contracted liabilities amounting to £10,000 and over :—

Metropolitan.	Total.	Metropolitan.	Total.
	£		£
Sydney	1,260,000	Country—	
Suburbs—		Armidale	19,050
Alexandria	17,000	Bathurst	13,500
Annandale	11,875	Bowral	11,000
Ashfield	25,000	Cootamundra	10,985
Balmain	65,500	Dubbo	15,000
Burwood	25,000	Glen Innes	14,000
Camperdown	17,000	Goulburn	10,800
Erskineville	10,000	Granville	16,200
Glebe	40,000	Lambton	12,608
Leichhardt	41,125	Lismore	12,000
Manly	16,000	Liverpool	11,000
Marrickville	30,000	Maitland West	24,000
Newtown	36,000	Newcastle	57,400
North Sydney	63,150	Orange	24,945
Paddington	69,900	Parramatta	56,600
Petersham	18,500	Penrith	23,800
Randwick	27,000	Wagga Wagga	18,200
Redfern	48,900	Waratah	15,500
Rockdale	17,000	Wickham	17,100
St. Peters	10,000	Other (under 10,000)	198,748
Waterloo	17,000		
Waverley	47,200	Total Country £	582,436
Willoughby	15,000	,, Metropolitan	2,001,438
Other (under 10,000)	73,288		
Total Metropolitan £	2,001,438	,, Municipalities £	2,583,874

Of the total outstanding indebtedness, £1,217,974 was incurred in Sydney, and the balance, £1,365,900, in London. If allowance be made in the latter amount for the £1,110,000 raised externally by the City Council, it will be seen that the other municipal authorities have relied chiefly on the local market to subscribe to their loan issues.

Against its debt of £1,260,000 the city of Sydney possesses assets approximately amounting to £3,308,247, distributed as follows :—

	£
Value of made roads, etc.	1,321,585
Town Hall	350,000
Markets and land	798,400
Other buildings	120,000
Cattle sale-yards	121,000
Wharves	410,000
Sinking funds	187,262
Total	£3,308,247

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And if to this sum be added the present assessed value of future rates, allowing twenty years' purchase, amounting to £3,202,740, the assets of the City Corporation amount to about £6,511,000, so that the indebtedness of the city of Sydney amounts to only 19 per cent. of the total assets, or 24 per cent. of assets excluding made roads.

The outstanding loans of the other incorporated districts of the Colony amounted to £1,323,874, or rather more than five times the amount of the ordinary rates of the year. Against this they have assets, exclusive of outstanding rates, amounting approximately to £4,415,445, distributed as follows:—

	£
Value of made roads and streets	3,478,415
Water works (constructed without State aid)	54,300
Sewerage works do do	82,900
Gas and electric lighting works	223,208
Buildings	566,413
Accrued sinking funds	10,209
Total	£4,415,445

The present assessed value of future rates at twenty years' purchase amounts to £5,033,980, which, added to the sum stated above, would make the total assets of these municipalities reach the sum of £9,450,000. The total municipal debt of the incorporated districts outside the boundaries of the city of Sydney would therefore appear to be only 14 per cent. of the total assets, or 22 per cent. of assets, excluding roads. This consideration of municipalities *in globo*, however, hides the fact that some are struggling under a load of debt that is well-nigh unsupportable.

Local Option.

In connection with local self-government by means of the municipal system, occurs the only instance in which the principle of what is known as local option has been put into operation in the Colony. For many years there was a strong agitation in favour of local option, or the right of the inhabitants of any district to control the liquor traffic in that district, and on several occasions unsuccessful attempts were made to legislate upon the subject. In the year 1882, however, an instalment of the principle was included in the Licensing Act then passed, which, with an amendment made in the following year, is still in force. These measures provide that in every municipality, or ward of a municipality, a local option vote shall be taken every three years, at the election for aldermen, in which the ratepayers are permitted to vote either "Yes" or "No" on two questions: (1) Whether any new publicans' licenses shall be granted during the coming three years in the municipality or ward in question; and (2) whether any removals of publicans'

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licenses shall be allowed within the same period. A majority of over eleven-twentieths of the votes polled is required to make the vote operative in the negative. The advocates of local option are not content with this partial adoption of the principle; they urge its extension to every electorate in the Colony, all persons on the electoral roll to have the right to vote. They further propose to place it in the power of a majority of the electors to say whether licensed public-houses should be suffered to exist at all. The extreme advocates of local option even contend that women should have the right to vote upon this question as well as men, and that public-houses should be abolished without compensation to the occupants or owners. Although the local option vote is taken once in three years in every municipality, or ward of a municipality, the year when it is taken is not the same in all. In the 20 municipalities and 25 wards where the vote was taken during 1895, only 4,469 electors took the trouble to vote upon the first question, and 4,395 on the second. The number of electors on the roll in the municipalities and wards in question was not less than 32,790. It would therefore appear that very little interest in the matter is taken except by the extreme advocates of temperance on the one hand, and those interested in the drink traffic on the other, while the general public is apathetic on the subject.

Water Supply for Country Towns.

The Country Towns' Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1880 was passed with the object of assisting the municipalities to construct general systems of water supply and sewerage. To the end of 1894, 29 municipal councils had availed themselves of the privileges offered as regards the former service; no general sewerage system, however, has yet been attempted. The provisions of the Act do not apply to areas under the control of the Boards of Water Supply and Sewerage in the Metropolitan and Hunter Districts. The amount required for carrying out the works is advanced by the State; the municipality, however, has the option of supervising and constructing the works, failing which the Government undertakes these duties. Under the Act as passed the sum advanced was to be repaid by instalments, with interest at the rate of 4 per cent. on the unpaid balances, each annual instalment to be equal to 6 per cent. of the total cost, and the first payment to be made twelve months after the date of the transfer of the works to the municipality. It being found that the municipalities were unable to comply with these requirements, the Government, in 1894, passed an amending Act which granted them more favourable conditions. Repayments may now be spread over a period not exceeding 100 years, and the rate of interest required to be paid on the outstanding balances was fixed at 3½ instead of 4 per cent. per annum. The following statement of works completed under the supervision of the Government shows the

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municipalities which have availed themselves of the Act, and the amount of their obligations to the State on the 31st December, 1895. It will be seen that some of the municipalities are largely in default :—

Municipality.	Total Expenditure by the State.	Overdue Instalments on 31st Dec., 1895.	Municipality.	Total Expenditure by the State.	Overdue Instalments on 31st Dec., 1895.
	£	£		£	£
Albury	45,186	2,965	Moama	6,486	Nil.
Bathurst	53,896	3,888	Moss Vale	14,150	Nil.
Bourke	14,336	334	Nowra	11,213	Nil.
Balranald	7,982	383	Nyngan	9,036	Nil.
Cootamundra	11,645	394	Orange	30,947	21
Deniliquin.....	17,313	631	*Richmond	11,151	Nil.
Goulburn	55,184	2,528	Wagga Wagga ..	37,272	1,533
Jerilderie	6,284	196	Wentworth	9,685	164
Lismore	9,772	434			
Manly	39,437	1,618	Total	390,975	15,089

* Administration since transferred to the Metropolitan Board.

In the following instances the works were constructed under the supervision of the municipality :—

Municipality.	Amount Expended.	Overdue Instalments on 31st Dec., 1895.	Municipality.	Amount Expended.	Overdue Instalments on 31st Dec., 1895.
	£	£		£	£
Forbes	9,049	297	Wilcannia	8,160	168
Hay.....	7,072	278	Total	24,281	743

The following is a list of works still under construction under the supervision of the Government :—

Municipality.	Expended.			Municipality.	Expended.		
	Prior to 1894.	During 1894.	Total.		Prior to 1894.	During 1894.	Total.
	£	£	£		£	£	£
Armidale.....	1,396	12,142	13,538	Lithgow	1,997	5,423	7,420
Bowral.....	114	...	114	Parkes	13,153	1,016	14,169
Coonamble.	14	1,779	1,793	Tamworth	2,635	10,558	13,193
Dubbo	11,330	2,146	13,476				
Junee	3,340	23,292	26,632	Total	33,979	56,356	90,335

Six municipal councils have, without seeking the aid of the State, constructed water supply works. The names of these municipalities

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and the amount of money already expended on the works are as under:—

Municipality.	Expenditure to 4th Feb., 1895.	Municipality.	Expenditure to 4th Feb., 1895.
	£		£
Narrandera	8,000	Singleton	500
Parramatta	30,000	Windsor.....	6,500
*Penrith	9,000		
Silverton	300	Total.....	54,300

* To 5th February, 1894.

The water supply works of Broken Hill and Silverton, now in operation, were constructed by a private company under a special Act of Parliament.

Sewerage Works.

As previously mentioned, no municipality has taken advantage of the special Act providing for the carrying out of sewerage works. Systems, however, exist in several districts, as the following statement will show; but with few exceptions the operations are on a minor scale. The general system of sewerage being carried out in the metropolitan area will supersede the isolated systems of some of the suburban districts, and the works already constructed will eventually form part of the general scheme. The Metropolitan Board has already taken over the sewerage works constructed by the municipalities of Sydney, Redfern, Balmain, and Darlington. The cost of the works in each municipality was as follows:—

Borough or Municipal District.	Sewerage.		Borough or Municipal District.	Sewerage.	
	Length.	Cost of Construction.		Length.	Cost of Construction.
	Ms. Chs.	£		Ms. Chs.	£
Ashfield	2 7	15,200	Narrandera	0 25	250
Balmain	2 0	4,500	Newcastle	11 20	16,000
Burwood	0 56	2,400	Richmond	0 18	1,000
Camperdown	....	5,161	Singleton.....	1 0	1,000
Glebe	12 19	16,248	Stockton	0 15·5	183
North Sydney	8 0	10,000	Wagga Wagga	0 33	534
Waterloo	3 41	4,369	Wentworth	0 20	165
Waverley	1 60	3,230	Wickham.....	0 60	700
Goulburn	1 27	1,420	Wilcannia	0 25	450
Murrumburrah	0 8	90			

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Gas and Electric Lighting Works.

Under the authority of the Municipal Gas Act of 1884, and an amending Act passed in 1886, gas and electric lighting works have been erected in several municipalities. The gas is used for street and household purposes; the electric light, so far, has been mostly confined to the former service. The following statement shows the municipalities which have erected gas works, and the expenditure they incurred in doing so:—

Borough or Municipal District.	Value of Plant.	Borough or Municipal District.	Value of Plant.
	£		£
Armidale	12,690	Maitland, East	8,000
Bathurst	25,972	Molong	4,500
Bega	8,000	Muswellbrook	4,200
Bowral	7,403	Orange	14,000
Cootamundra	7,315	Wagga Wagga	17,653
Dubbo	11,800	Waratah	10,000
Glen Innes	6,806	Yass	7,219
Lismore	7,000		
Lithgow	6,000		
Liverpool	7,000	Total	165,558

Similar information is given below for those municipalities which have been lighted by electricity:—

Borough or Municipal District.	Value of Plant.	Borough or Municipal District.	Value of Plant.
	£		£
Lambton	7,500	Tamworth	3,250
Newcastle	10,000	Young	9,000
Penrith	9,000		
Redfern	18,900	Total	57,650

In addition to the above, Enfield, Broken Hill, and Moss Vale are lighted by electricity, but the plant is owned by private companies.

Streets and Lanes.

The length of streets and lanes within the boundaries of the City of Sydney is 115 miles. All the roadways are formed, kerbed, and either wood-blocked or metalled; the area laid down of the former material to the end of 1894 was 393,462 square yards, exclusive of 20,000 square yards of wood blocking laid by the Government at Circular Quay. The value to the city of these streets is estimated at £1,321,585. Throughout the suburbs the extent of roads and streets is about 1,300 miles, of which 639 miles are metalled, 241 miles formed only, 215 miles cleared, and 205 miles

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natural surface; and the approximate value of these roadways, with culverts, bridges, and similar works, may be set down at £1,682,675. In the other municipalities of the Colony there are 1,552 miles of metalled roads, 1,330 formed only, 1,339 miles cleared, and 1,840 miles natural surface, in all 6,061 miles, the value of these improvements being about £1,795,740.

Water Supply and Sewerage.

With the rapid aggregation of the population in the metropolitan area came the necessity of establishing a system of water supply and sewerage equal to the needs of a great city. Prior to 1887 the control of the water supply of the city and suburbs was in the hands of the City Corporation, and the supply was entirely inadequate to meet the demands upon it, while the sewerage system was highly objectionable and inefficient. Besides the sewerage of the city, several suburban Councils adjacent thereto had constructed subsidiary systems, which are now being merged into the general scheme as the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage extends its operations.

As far back as 1867 a Royal Commission was appointed to investigate and report upon proposals for supplying water to the city and suburbs. Two years later, after various projects had been considered, the Commissioners submitted a report recommending the adoption of the "Upper Nepean scheme." Later on, in 1875, a second Royal Commission was appointed to report on a sewerage scheme for the metropolis. The report of the Commission was presented in 1877, and forms the basis of the system now being carried out. As much controversy was evoked by the schemes of water supply and sewerage recommended by the various Commissions, the Government obtained the services of an engineer from England, and, after much patient investigation, he approved of the systems proposed and recommended them for adoption. The first contract in connection with the construction of water supply works was undertaken in November, 1879, and that of sewerage in August, 1880, the necessary legislative authority for the construction of the works having been obtained shortly before.

In 1887 the water supply works had so far advanced that the Government considered it necessary to pass an Act establishing a Board of Administration to regulate the water supply and sewerage services, including those under the control of the Council. The management of the former service was transferred to the Board in May, 1888, and of the latter in September, 1889. The Board consists of seven members, three of whom are appointed by the Government, two by the City Council, and two by the suburban and country municipalities within the County of Cumberland which are supplied with water. The Board possesses very large powers, but is subject to the general control of the Minister for Works—a provision which is considered necessary, as the Government

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have advanced the whole of the money for the construction of the works, the amount so advanced constituting part of the public debt of the Colony.

Metropolitan Water Supply.

As early as 1850 authority was given by the Legislative Council to the City Corporation for the construction of water and sewerage works, and in accordance with such authority a system of water supply from the Lachlan, Bunnerong, and Botany Swamps was adopted. This scheme involved the interception of the water from the stream draining these swamps, at a point near the shore of Botany Bay, and pumping it to Crown-street Reservoir, 132 feet above the level of the sea; thence a portion was raised to Paddington, 280 feet over sea-level, and a further portion to Woollahra, 320 feet over sea-level. The cost of water supply works as carried out by the City Corporation, including 301 miles of reticulation pipes, was £1,719,565. This system has now been superseded by the Nepean scheme already referred to, and carried out by Mr. E. O. Moriarty, M.I.C.E. The works in connection with this scheme have been conceived on a scale of magnitude commensurate with the importance to which Sydney will ultimately attain. The source of supply is the united waters of the Nepean, Cataract, and Cordeaux, mountain streams draining an area of 354 square miles, fed by the abundant rain which falls along the coast district west of Wollongong. The water is intercepted at a height of 437 feet above the level of the sea, and flows through a series of conduits—partly tunnel, partly open canals, and in places wrought-iron aqueducts—to Prospect Reservoir, a distance of 40 miles from the farthest source of supply. Here an impounding reservoir has been constructed capable of holding 11,000 million gallons, of which nearly 7,000 million will be available for supply, the remainder being intended as a settling area.

The top water at Prospect Reservoir is 195 feet over high water in Sydney Harbour. From Prospect the water is led through open conduits for a further distance of 4¾ miles, whence it is taken to Crown-street Reservoir, a distance of 16 miles, in iron pipes. The conduits above Prospect Reservoir have a capacity of 150 million gallons per day, and for 10 miles below this reservoir the capacity of the canals and pipes equals a maximum of 50 million gallons, while for the last 11 miles the water flows through 48-inch and 42-inch cast-iron pipes, having a capacity of 17·5 million gallons daily. In this work there are :—

Tunnels	11⅝ miles.
Open canals	33¼ ,,
Wrought-iron pipes, 8 ft., 7 ft. 6 in., and 6 ft. diameter	5⅜ ,,
Cast-iron pipes, 48 in. and 42 in. diameter	11¼ ,,
Water surface of reservoir	1¾ ,,
Total	63¼ miles.

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The Prospect Reservoir covers an area when full of 1,261 acres, or nearly 2 square miles, and has a capacity of 10,812,313,000 gallons. The dam is 7,300 feet long, 30 feet wide on top, and is carried to a height of 84 feet at the centre. It contains some 2,316,500 cubic feet of earthwork. The water face is covered with heavy bluestone pitching. When the dam is quite full 6,744,343,000 gallons are available by gravitation.

The water, after leaving the dam, is conducted by an open canal for 4¾ miles to the Pipe Head Basin, and is then conveyed by wrought-iron pipes, 6 feet in diameter, to Potts' Hill, a further distance of 5 miles, where the water delivers itself into a 100,000,000-gallon tank. This work is designed to tide the city over any interruption of supply from Prospect, as well as to prevent fluctuation of head of pressure.

After leaving the reservoir, the water passes through a screening tank, whence it is conveyed by pipes to the various reservoirs situated at Crown-street, capacity 3,250,000 gallons; Paddington, 2,000,000 gallons; Woollahra, 1,000,000 gallons; Waverley, 1,087,000 gallons; Petersham, 2,157,000 gallons; and to the North Sydney water supply tanks at Ryde and Chatswood, which have an aggregate capacity of 4,000,000 gallons. The districts of Campbelltown and Liverpool are supplied from the mains by gravitation; but in the latter case a reservoir has been constructed for the purpose of tiding over any interruption in the flow from the canal. The capacity of the reservoir is 4,000,000 gallons. A reservoir which is to have a capacity of 17,500,000 gallons is being constructed in Centennial Park to facilitate the supply of some of the eastern suburbs. At the first-mentioned station (Crown-street) the main pumping-plant has been erected, consisting of two compound high Dutz Worthington engines. These are capable of raising and conveying 910,000 gallons per hour to the high-level reservoirs.

The revenue from the Water Service Branch during 1894 was £161,167, and the expenditure £160,706, of which £25,223 was for maintenance, £14,051 for management, £119,660 for interest on loans, and £1,772 depreciation account. The profit on the year's transactions, after all liabilities as to maintenance, management, and interest on capital expenditure had been met, was £461. In addition to this small profit, there were outstanding rates to the amount of £19,952.

The cost of all works connected with water supply purposes to the close of 1894, including purchase of land, maintenance, and supervision, was £3,448,653. The amount of outstanding loan liability was £3,440,614, and the net revenue shows a return of 3·5 per cent. on this amount. The number of houses and persons supplied with water in the metropolitan district is 83,621 and 401,380 respectively; the average consumption is 13,738,874 gallons daily, or at the rate of 164 gallons per house and 34·2 gallons per person, the total supply for the year being 5,014,689,000 gallons.

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The subjoined statement gives the transactions for each year during which the Board was in operation :—

Year.	Capital Debt.		Revenue.	Expenditure.	Houses supplied.	Population served.	Supply.	
	Amount.	Return per cent.					Daily (average).	Yearly.
	£		£	£	No.	No.	gallons.	gallons.
1888	3,004,557	1·68	125,486	83,482	61,718	296,246	8,144,169	2,972,621,623
1889	3,088,068	3·31	138,924	144,642	67,924	326,035	8,820,009	3,219,244,159
1890	3,189,080	3·48	145,990	147,310	71,501	343,204	8,486,034	3,097,402,486
1891	3,306,649	3·85	165,831	154,190	76,093	365,246	9,540,102	3,482,237,514
1892	3,394,581	3·26	155,886	161,825	78,926	378,885	12,129,152	4,439,273,890
1893	3,409,721	3·52	157,427	158,840	81,288	390,182	12,533,652	4,574,782,840
1894	3,440,614	3·54	161,167	160,706	83,621	401,380	13,738,874	5,014,689,000

During 1894 the average daily supply of water to persons in the metropolitan district was 34·2 gallons, as against 32·1 gallons in the preceding year. The averages for other cities for which information is available are as follow :—

City.	Average Daily Supply.	City.	Average Daily Supply.
	gallons.		gallons.
Sydney	34	Hobart.....	60
Melbourne ...	49	London	31
Auckland	44	Berlin	13
Dunedin	64	Paris	36

The Hunter District Water Supply.

The water supply works of the Lower Hunter were constructed by the Government, under the provisions of the Country Towns' Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1880. During 1892, under the authority of a special Act, a Board was established on similar lines to those of the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board, the number of members also being the same. The following municipalities were proclaimed within the area of the Board's jurisdiction :—Adamstown, Carrington, Hamilton, Lambton, Lambton (New), Maitland (West), Maitland (East), Merewether, Morpeth, Newcastle, Plattsburg, Wallsend, Waratah, and Wickham.

The operations of the Board are at present entirely confined to water supply, no sewerage works as yet having been attempted. Particulars relating to the operations of the Board are given below :—

Year.	Capital Debt.		Revenue.	Expenditure.	Houses Supplied.	Population Served.	Supply.	
	Amount.	Return per cent.					Daily (average.)	Yearly.
	£		£	£	No.	No.	gallons.	gallons.
1892-3	417,322	3·5	26,868	24,280	3,421	17,105	451,005	164,616,850
1893-4	417,332	3·5	25,535	25,051	3,848	19,240	418,766	152,849,650
1894-5	417,332	3·5	23,850	24,881	4,660	23,300	518,038	189,084,000

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The interest on capital indebtedness is fixed by statute at 3½ per cent. per annum, and the Board is required under the Act, subject to limitations in respect of maximum rate, to strike such a rate as will provide for this, an annual instalment to assist in defraying cost of construction, and other expenses. The total revenue for the year ended June, 1895, was £23,850, and the amount required to pay working expenses, interest on debt, and other statutory obligations was £24,881, thereby showing a deficiency of £1,031.

Richmond Water Supply.

The municipality of Richmond availed itself of the Country Towns' Water Supply and Sewerage Act, and carried out a scheme of water supply. The local Municipal Council administered the service until May, 1893, when it was temporarily transferred, pending legal powers, to the Metropolitan Board. As only the premises of those persons who signed an agreement to take the water can be rated, the revenue from the service is greatly restricted. The accounts are kept separate from those of the metropolitan supply. The plant consists of pumping works erected on the left bank of the Hawkesbury, just below the confluence of the Grose and Nepean; a circular brick tank having a capacity of 225,000 gallons; a 6-inch supply main to Richmond, 4 miles in length; and rather more than 5 miles of reticulation mains. The capital cost of the service, together with the revenue and the liability against revenue, are shown hereunder:—

Year.	Capital Cost.	Annual Liability against Revenue.			Revenue.
		Interest.	Maintenance (including proportion of head-office expenses).	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£
*1893	12,340	494	315	809	400
1894	12,340	494	638	1,132	439

* Seven months only.

Metropolitan Sewerage Works.

The original sewerage works at Sydney were begun in 1854, and in 1889, the date of transfer to the Board, 70·27 miles of old city sewers were in existence. The works now being carried out will, when completed, drain the whole of the northern and southern slopes of the city and suburbs, discharging the sewerage of the former into the ocean between Bondi and South Head, and of the latter at a sewerage farm on the shores of Botany Bay. The two main outfalls have been com-

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pleted, but the reticulation works in the suburbs will take some considerable time to construct before the whole area comes under the operation of the system. The subjoined statement gives the transactions for each year since the sewerage system has been under the control of the Board :—

Year.	Capital Debt.		Revenue.	Expenditure.	Houses sewered.	Population served.	Length of Sewers.	Length of storm-water drains.
	Amount.	Return per cent.						
	£		£	£	No.	No.	miles.	miles.
1890	1,281,045	3·82	81,800	67,026	22,765	109,272	122·03	3·15
1891	1,447,287	3·86	81,303	71,907	26,884	129,043	148·02	4·38
1892	1,606,948	3·77	87,927	79,543	31,402	150,729	172·94	6·62
1893	1,691,462	3·93	93,661	85,363	36,062	173,097	182·34	9·10
1894	1,745,120	3·72	93,134	89,237	39,965	191,832	201·95	9·82

Up to the end of 1894 there had been constructed 131·68 miles of new sewers, and 9·82 miles of storm-water drains, making together, with the old city sewers, a total of 211·8 miles of sewers and drains, of which length 92·5 miles were ventilated, the aggregate length of the ventilating shafts erected being 54,405 feet. The number of houses sewered and of population served was 39,965 and 191,832 respectively.

The revenue of the Board from sewerage during the same year was £93,134, chiefly from rates, and the expenditure £89,237, viz., £18,188 for maintenance, £9,865 for management, £60,642 for interest on loan capital and debentures taken over from the Municipal Councils, and £542 for depreciation. The credit balance at the end of the year was, therefore, £3,897 ; and the amount of outstanding rates due to the Board was £7,644. The amount of outstanding loan capital at the end of 1894 was £1,745,120, and the amount of net revenue received was equal to 3·7 per cent. on this amount.

The funds necessary for the maintenance and management of the Water Supply and Sewerage services, as well as the sum required to pay interest on the capital debt, are obtained by rates levied on the properties situated in the districts benefited by the systems. The assessments of the local Councils are generally accepted by the Boards as the values on which to strike their special rates. In cases of more than ordinary consumption of water, a charge is made according to the quantity used, while various fixed charges are imposed for the use of water in certain trades and callings, for gardens, and for the use of animals.

Leaving out of consideration the expenditure on works of national importance, the Government during the past thirty-five years expended no less than £26,748,882 on works of a purely local character, not including school buildings. Of this sum, £17,451,039 was expended in

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the country districts, and £9,297,843 in the metropolis. The division of the Colony into local government districts would not necessarily be followed by an entire stoppage of the direct expenditure on works of merely local interest by the central Government, but the larger portion of the works now undertaken by Government would be left to the local authorities, who, having to directly provide part of the expenditure, would probably see that it is laid out to the best advantage. Adopting the two divisions of metropolis and country, already mentioned, the expenditure on account of public works in each since 1860 is given below. As regards the metropolitan expenditure, £6,475,000 was expended on tramways, and water supply and sewerage works, which are sources of revenue. In the country districts the amount expended on similar works was only £915,000 :—

Year.	Country districts.		Metropolis.		Total.	
	Expenditure.	Rate per head.	Expenditure.	Rate per head.	Expenditure.	Rate per head.
	£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
1860–1880	5,649,382	.....	1,065,410	.....	6,714,792	.....
1881	583,471	1 1 10	357,182	1 10 10	940,653	1 4 7
1882	704,892	1 5 5	702,696	2 17 8	1,407,588	1 15 3
1883	758,052	1 6 1	931,615	3 12 7	1,689,667	2 0 3
1884	940,858	1 10 8	669,209	2 9 5	1,610,067	1 16 5
1885	981,951	1 10 7	704,636	2 9 5	1,686,587	1 16 4
1886	868,923	1 6 0	767,906	2 11 1	1,636,829	1 13 9
1887	784,941	1 2 9	556,660	1 15 2	1,341,601	1 6 8
1888	904,477	1 5 9	344,414	1 0 8	1,248,891	1 4 0
1889	798,383	1 2 4	583,786	1 13 2	1,382,169	1 5 11
1890	874,077	1 3 10	444,723	1 4 0	1,318,800	1 3 11
1891	1,126,446	1 9 11	790,491	2 0 7	1,916,937	1 13 6
1892	1,034,686	1 6 8	563,015	1 7 9	1,597,701	1 7 0
1893	790,500	0 19 11	416,100	1 0 0	1,206,600	0 19 11
1894	650,000	0 15 11	400,000	0 18 11	1,050,000	0 17 0

Parks and Recreation Reserves.

It has always been the policy of the State to provide the residents of incorporated towns with parks and reserves for public recreation, and the City of Sydney contains within its boundaries an extent of parks, squares, and public gardens larger than exist in most of the great cities of the world without regard even to area. They cover altogether 748 acres, or 26 per cent. of the whole of the city proper. In addition to these reserves, the inhabitants of Sydney have the use of 780 acres, formerly reserved for the water supply of the city, but now known as the Centennial Park. This magnificent recreation ground has been cleared and planted, and is laid out with walks and

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drives, so that it is likely to become a favourite resort with the citizens. The suburban municipalities are also well provided for, as they contain, including the Centennial Park, about 2,750 acres of public parks and reserves, dedicated to, or purchased for, the people by the Government, or rather more than 3 per cent. of their aggregate area.

In addition to these reserves, the Government dedicated to the people, in December, 1879, a large area of land, situated within easy distance of the metropolis. This estate, now known as the National Park, with the additions subsequently made in 1880 and 1883, contains a total area of 36,320 acres, surrounding the picturesque bay of Port Hacking, and extending in a southerly direction towards the mountainous district of Illawarra. It is covered with magnificent virgin forests; the scenery is charming, and its beauties attract thousands of visitors.

In the country districts reserves, extending often over one million acres, have been proclaimed as temporary commons, whilst considerable areas have been from time to time dedicated as permanent commons attached to inland townships, which are otherwise well provided with parks and reserves within their boundaries.

A recreation ground, designated Ku-ring-gai Chase, and situated at Hawkesbury River, was dedicated in December, 1894, for public use. The area of the Chase is 35,300 acres, and comprises portions of the parishes of Broken Bay, Cowan, Gordon, and South Colah. The Government, before the close of the year mentioned, granted £200 for necessary improvements.

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INDEX TO VOL. II.

Aborigines, Number of, 974
  Protection of, 884
Accidents, Fatal, 953
  on Railways, 733
  on Tramways, 739
Ages of Arrested Persons, 585
  of Breadwinners and Dependents, 533
  of Brides and Bridegrooms, 907
  of Insane Persons, 981
  of Married Couples, 913
  of Parents, 925
  of Persons dying, 945
  of the People, 892
Agricultural Labourers, Wages of, 469, 479, 488, 500, 514, 519, 523, 526
Ale, Imports of, 545
  Production of, 545
Alienation of Lands, 657, 663
Apprehensions, 583
Art Gallery, 860
Artesian Well Leases, 654
Assignment of Labour, 468, 476, 486, 496
Assurance, Life, 805
Auction Sales of Land, 649, 657
Australian Agricultural Company, 484

Balranald Irrigation Trust, 990
Banking, 773
  Laws, 773
  Reform, 789
Bank of Australia, Foundation of, 484
  of New South Wales, Foundation of, 474
Bankruptcy, 625, 813
Banks, Advances by, 779
  Assets and Liabilities of, 776
  Capital Resources of, 775
  Deposits in, 779, 795
    Interest on, 781
  Discount Rates, 782
  Dividends of, 788
  Earnings of, 787
  Exchange Rates on London, 783
  Interest paid by, 521
  Metallic Reserves of, 778
  Note circulation of, 784
  Overdraft Rates, 782
Banks, Reconstructed Deposits of, 782
  Savings, 789
    School, 843
  Shareholders' Liability of, 774
  Working Expenses and Profits of, 785
Baptist Churches, 868
Barristers, 623
Beer, Imports of, 545
  Production of, 545
Benevolent Asylums, 880
Bills of Sale, 824
Birthplaces of Married Couples, 914
  of Parents, 926
  of the People, 893
Births—
  Ages of Parents, 925
  Birthplaces of Parents, 926
  Deaths in Childbirth, 934
  Duration of Marriages of Parents, 933
  Illegitimate, 928
  in Metropolis and Country, 923
  in Seasons, 923
  Number of, 924
  of Males and Females, 922
  Period before First Birth, 927
  Rates of Colonies, 921
    of Foreign Countries, 922
    of United Kingdom, 922
  Twins and Triplets, 930
Blue Mountains, Crossing of, 702
Boards and Trusts, 989
Boiling-down, Initiation of, 494
Book Parcels, Transmission of, 749
Boots, Manufacture of, 549
Breadwinners, 530
  Ages of, 533
Brewing Industry, 544, 545
Brickmaking, 552
Bridges, 704
Bronze Coin, 764
  Amount in Circulation, 770
  Issue of, 767
Building and Investment Companies, 79
  Materials, 551
Burials, 958
Bushranging, 521
Cable Services, 753

Digitized by Google

Cabs, 740
California, Emigration to, 499
Cancer, Deaths from, 950
Candles, Production of, 557
Capital, Importation of, 524, 756
  Punishment, 604
Cattle, Mortgages on, 822
  Number of, 509
  Wild, 471
Census of 1891, 891
Charitable Institutions for Adults, 880
  for Children, 876
  Finances of, 883
Charities, 870
  Expenditure on, 884
Childbirth, Deaths in, 934
Children at School, 834
  Destitute, 876
  Employment of, 533, 541
Chinese, Influx of, 518
  Number of, 973
Church of England, 865
Cities, Population of, 899
Civil Servants, Number of, 559
  Salaries and Wages of, 560
Clothing and Textiles, 548
Coal, Production of, 511, 515
Coin in Circulation, 770
Commerce, Growth of, 511
  Restrictions on, 472
Commercial Crisis of 1842, 493
Common Law Jurisdiction, 622
Companies, No-liability Mining, 794
  Registered, 791
Conditional Leases, 651, 660
  Purchases, 646, 658, 668
Conjugal Condition of the People, 912
  Ages of Married Couples, 913
  Birthplaces of Married Couples, 914
  Religions of Married Couples, 916
Conference (Intercolonial) of 1863, 520
Congregational Church, 868
Co-operative Societies, 577, 794
Copyright, 630
Courts, District, 626
  of Petty Sessions—
    Civil Jurisdiction, 596
    Criminal Jurisdiction, 593
  Superior—
    Civil Jurisdiction, 620
    Criminal Jurisdiction, 597
Crime—
  Ages of Offenders, 584
  Apprehensions, Number of, 583
  Decrease in, 600
  Drunkenness, 589
  Education of Offenders, 588
Crime—
  Extradition of Fugitives, 620
  Female Offenders, 610
  Habitual Offenders, 609, 615
  Heights of Criminals, 618
  in Australasia, 602
  Punishments for, 611
  Religion of Offenders, 587
  Remission of Sentences, 617
  Sentences for, 612
  Summary Convictions for, 596
  Superior Courts, 597
Crops, Liens on, 823
Cultivation, Area under, 510
Currency, 764
  Early, 473, 483
  of Principal Countries, 771

Dairying Industry, Return from, 579
Deaths, Accidental, 953
  according to Ages, 941, 945
  Causes of, 946
  from Cancer, 950
  from Diseases of Nervous System, 953
  from Heart Disease, 952
  from Phthisis, 952
  in Charitable Institutions, 880
  in Childbirth, 934
  in Gaols, 617
  in Hospitals, 872
  in Metropolis and Country, 939
  in Seasons, 937
  Inquests on, 597
  of Infants, 942
  of Insane Persons, 979, 983
  of Males and Females, 936
  Number of, 935, 936
  Rates of Cities, 944
    of Colonies, 935, 936, 944
    of Foreign Countries, 938, 944
    of United Kingdom, 938, 944
  Suicidal, 955
Debts Cases (Small), 627
Destitute Adults, 880
  Children, 876
Diagrams, 510, 514, 578, 642, 690, 722, 754, 834, 866, 898
Diseases of Nervous System, Deaths from, 953
Distribution of the Sexes, 891
Divorces, 918
  Ages of Husbands and Wives, 920
  Conjugal Condition of Contracting Parties, 920
  Duration of Marriages, 920
  Grounds of, 919
  Issue of Marriages, 920

Digitized by Google

Divorces—
Number of, 918
Religious Denominations celebrating Marriages, 920
Sex of Petitioners, 919

Education, Cost of State, 840
Denominational, 844
Elementary, 834
Expenditure on, 842
Higher, 845
History of, 831
Private Schools, 844
Public Examinations, 851
State Schools, 837
Teachers in, 839
Savings Banks of, 843
Technical, 853
University of Sydney, 846
Electric Lighting Works, 1007
Emancipists, Introduction of, 498
Emigration to California, 499
Employers, 531
Employment, 530
Equity Jurisdiction, 623
Executions, 624
Expectation of Life, 964
Exports, 473, 494, 503, 543
Extradition of Criminals, 620

Factories, Employés in, 544
Number of, 539
Fecundity of Marriages, 910
Federal Ocean Mail Service, 747
Females, Earnings of, 761
Occupations of, 537
Finance, Private, 756
Fines, Payment of, 595
Fire Brigades, 804, 989
Inquests, 597
Insurance, 802
Fires, Number of, 803
First Offenders' Probation Act, 595
Floods and Droughts, 516
Flour, Manufacture of, 547
Mills, 547
Food products, Preparation of, 544
Foreigners, Introduction of, 498
Naturalisation of, 970
Forestry and Fisheries, Return from, 579
Friendly Societies, 826
Fugitive Offenders' Act, 620
Furniture Trades, 556

Gaols, 606
Deaths in, 617
Inmates of, 606
Gaols, Labour done in, 616
Gas, Consumption of, 554
Prices of, 554
Quantity made of, 553
Works, 553, 1007
Germans, Immigration of, 505
Gold Coin, 764
Amount in circulation, 770
Issue of, 766
Discovery of, 499
Export of, 512
Movements of, 772
Production of, 515
Received at Mint, 767
Government Employés, 559
Labour Bureau, 885
Local, 987
Governor, Functions of the Early, 468

Hashemy, Arrival of, 497
Hay Irrigation Trust, 990
Heart Disease, Deaths from, 952
History, Industrial, 467
Holdings, Rural, 669
Homestead Leases, 654, 660
Selections, 650
Horse-power, 562
Horses, Mortgages on, 822
Number of, 509
Hospitals, 871
Accommodation of, 871
Admissions to, 872
Deaths in, 872
Number of, 871
Outdoor Relief of, 874
Patients in, 871
Receipts and Expenditure of, 874
State Expenditure on, 873
House Rentals, 491, 502, 506, 520
Houses within Municipalities, 991

Illegitimacy, 928
Immigration, Assisted, 477, 486, 495, 499, 505, 523, 890
Import of Capital, 524, 756
Incomes, Estimate of, 758
Industrial History, 467
Schools, 855, 879
Infant Mortality, 943
Infirmity, 959
Inquests, 597
Insane, Admissions to Hospital for, 979
Ages of, 981
Conjugal Condition of, 981
Cost of Maintenance of, 983
Crimes committed by, 984

Digitized by Google

Insane, Deaths of, 979, 983
Hospitals for, 977
Nationalities of, 980
Number of, 978
Prevention of Influx of, 980
Recovery of, 985
Treatment of, 883
Insanity, Causes of, 981
Insolvencies, 813
Instruction, 831
Private, 844
Public, 837
Insurance, 801
Fire, 802
Life, 805
Internal Communication, 702
Intestate Estates, 624
Intoxicants, Consumption of, 591
Investment Companies, 793
Iron Trade, 551
Irrigation Trusts, 990

Judicial Separation, 918

Labour, Assignment of, 468, 476
Bureau, 888
Coloured, 487, 495
Demand for, 495
Importation of, 498, 564
Laws, 469, 475, 486
Prison, 616
Settlements, 701
Labourer, Condition of, 473
Lambing Flat, Riots at, 518
Lands Act of 1861, 515, 643
of 1884, 643
of 1889, 643
of 1895, 644
Administration, Cost of, 657
Land, Alienation of, 484, 636, 657, 663
Legislation, Effects of, 663
Sales, Introduction of, 637
Revenue from, 510, 660
Settlement, 633
Artesian Well Leases, 654
Auction Sales, 649
Conditional Leases, 651
Purchases, 646
Exchanges, 650
Homestead Leases, 654
Selections, 650
Improvement Leases, 652
Purchases, 649
Leases of Inferior Lands, 656
Occupation Licenses, 654
Pastoral Leases, 653
Residential Leases, 656
Land Settlement Leases, 652
Snow-land Leases, 656
Special Purchases, 649
Volunteer Land Orders, 650
Law and Crime, 581
Laws, Early Labour, 469, 475, 486
Leprosy, 961
Letters, Registration of, 750
Transmission of, 749
Libraries, Public, 857
Liens on Wool and Crops, 822
Life Assurance Companies, 805
Accumulated Funds of, 810
Amount assured in, 807
Assets and Liabilities of, 810
Expenses of Management of, 811
Policies in force, 807
Premium Income of, 807
Receipts and Expenditure of, 809
Life Tables, 967, 968
Light and Heat, 553
Live Stock, Mortgages on, 821
Local Government, 987
Boards and Trusts, 989
Incorporated Area, 988
Incorporation of City of Sydney, 988
Municipalities, 1894–5, 990
Sewerage Works, 1006, 1008
Suburban and Country Municipalities, 989
Water Supply, 1004, 1008, 1011
Local Option, 1003
Lottery Bill, 494
Lunacy, 977

Macquarie's Labour Laws, 471
Magistrates' Courts—
Criminal Cases, 593
Small Debt Cases, 627
Mail Services, 745
Manufactories, 483, 503, 510, 515, 533
Hands Employed in, 539
Marriage Laws, 917
Marriages, 903
Ages of Brides and Bridegrooms, 907
and Illiteracy, 823, 905
Celebration of, 906
Conjugal Condition of Contracting Parties, 909
Divorces and Judicial Separations, 918
Duration of Life after, 909
Fecundity of, 910
of Minors, 908
Number of, 903
Rates of, 903

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Master and Servants' Act, 486
Matrimonial Agencies, 907
Metal Works, 550, 551
Methodists, 867
Metropolitan Transit Commission, 989
Mineral Leases, 656
Miners, Wages of, 573
Mining Companies, No-Liability, 794
Mint, Receipts and Expenditure of, 768
  Transactions of, 766
Molasses, Production of, 546
Money Orders, 751, 797
Mortgages, 819
  Discharges of, 823
  of Real Estate, 820
  on Live Stock and Wool, 821
  on Ships, 824
  Summary of, 825
Municipalities, Assessment of, 1002
  Endowment of, 992
  Expenditure of, 992
  Houses within, 990
  Lighting of, 1007
  Loans of, 1001
  Number of, 990
  Population of, 901, 902
  Powers of, 991
  Revenue of, 998
  Sewerage Works in, 1006
  Streets and Lanes in, 1007
  Value of Ratable Property, 993
  Voters within, 993
  Water Supply of, 1004
Museums, 861

National Art Gallery, 860
Naturalisation, 970
Navigation, Inland, 507
New Caledonian Cable, 754
Newspapers, Transmission of, 749
No-Liability Mining Companies, 794
Notes of hand, 472

Occupation Licenses, 654, 660
Occupations of the People, 534
Ocean Mail Services, 745
Omnibuses, 740

Pacific Cable, 754
Packets, Transmission of, 749
Parks and Reserves, 1014
Parramatta Industrial School, 879
Pastoral Industry, Growth of, 509
  Lands, Occupation of, 641
  Leases, 653, 660
Patents, 628
Phthisis, Deaths from, 952
Pigs, Number of, 509
Police, Cost of, 582, 619
  Number of, 581
Population, Ages of, 892
  Birthplaces of, 893
  Centralisation of, 896
  Distribution of Sexes, 891
  Growth of, 887
  Increase of, 888
    by Immigration, 889
    Natural, 889
    Rate of, 887
  of Australasia, 886
  of Cities, 899
  of Metropolis and Country, 900
  of Municipalities, 901, 902
  Standard, and Co-efficient of Mortality, 957
Post Office, History of, 741
  Revenue and Expenditure of, 749
  Savings Banks, 751, 789
  Transactions of, 748
Postal Notes, 751, 797
  Rates, 750
Price Levels, 527
Prices, 470, 481, 489, 501, 506, 514, 520
Primitive Methodist Church, 867
Printing Trades, 554
Prison Labour, 616
  Service, Cost of, 619
Prisoners, 606
  Refractory, 615
Private Finance, 756
Privy Council, Appeals to, 621
Probates, 624, 761
Production, Value of, 562, 579
Property, Private, Value of, 756
  Ratable, Value of, 993
Public Examinations, 851
  Instruction Act, 831
  Libraries, 857
  Parks, 1014
  Servants, Number of,
    Salaries and Wages of, 560
  Works, Construction of, 523

Railways, 708
  Accidents on, 733
  Capital Expenditure on, 712
  Compensation paid, 731
  Cost of Construction, 719
  Earnings and Working Expenses of, 721
  Employés on, 731, 739
  Fuel consumed on, 731

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Railways, Goods Traffic of, 727
Grades of, 716
in Australasia, 712
in Principal Countries, 711
Interest returned on, 731
Introduction of, 513, 708
Management of, 731
New Lines, 730
Passenger Traffic, 724
Private Lines, 732
Progress of Construction, 709
Systems, 731
Train Miles run, 710
Wages paid, 731
Rations, 470, 480, 501
Raw Materials, Preparation of, 542
Real Property Act, 817
Reformatories, 609, 855, 879
Registered Companies, 791
Religion, State aid to, 863
Religions of Married People, 916
of the People, 863
Rentals, House, 482, 491, 502, 506, 520
Revenue from Land Sales, 510, 660
Roads and Bridges, 702
Expenditure on, 707
Roman Catholic Church, 866
Rural Pursuits, 699
Settlement, 669

Saddlery, Manufacture of, 555
Salvation Army, 868
Sandalwood, Export of, 472
Savings Banks, 484, 751, 789
School, 843
Saw-mills, 552
Schools (see *Education*)
Sunday, 869
Scientific Societies, 857
Sequestrations, 813
Settlement, 633
and Agriculture, 697
Area available for, 661
Extension of, 508
in Central Table-land, 680
in Hunter and Hawkesbury Valleys, 674
in Metropolitan District, 671
in North Coast District, 678
in North-Western Slope, 691
in Northern Table-land, 684
in South Coast District, 676
in South-Western Slope, 686
in Southern Table-land, 682
in Western Central Slope, 689
in Western Plains, 693
Sewerage Works, 1006, 1008, 1112
Sexes, Distribution of, 891
Shaftesbury Reformatory, 879
Sheep, Mortgages on, 822
Number of, 509
Ship and Boat building, 555
Shipping, Mortgages on, 824
Sickness and Infirmity, 959
Duration of, 962
Silver Coinage, 764
Amount in circulation, 770
Issue of, 767
Seignorage on, 767
Price of, 765
Snow-land Leases, 656
Soap, Production of, 557
Sobraon Training Ship, 879
Social Condition and Charities, 870
Societies, Building and Investment, 793
Friendly, 826
Soldiers, Employment of, 471
Solicitors, 622
Standard of Living, 507
Population and Co-efficient of Mortality, 957
State Children's Relief Board, 876
Steam Power, 560
Steamship, First, 513
Streets and Lanes, 1007
Sugar Industry, 545
Production of, 546
Suicides, 955
Supreme Court—
Bankruptcy Jurisdiction, 625
Civil Jurisdiction, 620
Common Law Jurisdiction, 622
Divorce Jurisdiction, 626
Equity Jurisdiction, 623
Intestate Estates, 624
Probate Jurisdiction, 624
Sunday Schools, 869
Sydney, Incorporation of City of, 988

Tallow, Consumption of, 543
Export of, 509, 543
Production of, 503, 543
Technical Education, 853
Telegraphs, 752
Telephones, 755
Timber sawn, Quantity of, 552
Tobacco, Manufacture of, 558
Torrens' Act, 817
Trade Marks, 796
Restrictions on, 472
Unions, 576, 831
Trades Arbitration Board, 578
Trading Companies, 793

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Tramways, Accidents on, 739
Cost of Construction of, 737
Interest on, 738
Metropolitan, 736
Private, 740
Traffic, 735
Wages paid on, 739
Transit Commission, 741, 989
Transportation, 470
Abolition of, 497
Trial Bay Breakwater, 616
Twins and Triplets, 930

Usury, Regulations against, 472
University of Sydney, 846

Vaccination, 976
Vehicles, Manufacture of, 555
Victoria, Flow of Population to, 512
Volunteer Land Orders, 650, 659
Voters, Municipal, 993

Wage-earners, 531
Wages, 469, 478, 488, 499, 505, 514, 519, 523, 526, 527, 564
Waggonettes, 740
Water Supply for Country Towns, 1004
Hunter District, 1011
Metropolitan, 1008
Wealth, Distribution of, 763
Wentworth Irrigation Trust, 990
Wesleyan Methodists, 867
Whipping, 595
Wollongong Harbour Trust, 990
Women, Earnings of, 761
Employment of, 534
Occupations of, 537
Wool, Export of, 509
Liens on, 821
Woollens, Manufacture of, 549
Workers, Ages of, 533
Grades of, 531.

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